Nothing ſhould be ſpared in the firſt moment."

Every thing required of the Prince of Conde was to yield to theſe offers. He knew what Pichegru had offered, what he had abandoned, and what were his talents. His plan ſtood in farther proof of his good faith. By paſſing the Rhine, his army ſtood between thoſe of Wurmſer and the Prince of Conde. Deſertion was therefore impoſſible, and, if the enterprize failed, Pichegru was himſelf an emigrant. This claim, however, loſt the Monarchy, as it had frequently done before. The Prince of Conde, on reading the plan, rejected it altogether. It was neceſſary, to enſure its ſucceſs, that it ſhould be communicated to the Auſtrians: this Pichegru abſolutely required. The Prince of Conde was againſt it; he wiſhed to have alone the glory of bringing about a counter-revolution.

But the Directory had the earlieſt intelligence of what was going forward. During the night of the 4th of September, the Commiſſion of Inſpectors, with ſeveral members of both Councils, had aſſembled in the hall of the Five Hundred, at the Thuilleries. At midnight General Moulin appeared at the gate of the Ponttournant, which leads into the garden of the Thuilleries from the Square of the Revolution, at the head of a conſiderable detachment, and demanded admittance, which was refuſed him by Ramel, Commander of the Guard of the Legiſlative Body. But, upon the General's ordering two pieces of cannon to advance, and the grenadiers at the ſame time declaring againſt their Commander, the gate was opened, and Ramel arreſted. The General then proceeded to the Manege, where the Members were deliberating, and found there Royere, Bourdon de l'Oiſe, Pichegru, Villot, and ſeveral others, all of whom he immediately arreſted. Pichegru and Villot made ſome reſiſtance, but were immediately ſeized and diſarmed; Pichegru was wounded. At the ſame time Barthelemy was arreſted at the Directory; but Carnot had contrived to make his eſcape.

Before the execution of this blow, the Directory had taken care to have all the bridges, the Square of the Revolution, and the avenues leading to the Thuilleries, and the moſt conſiderable poſts of the city, occupied by ſtrong detachments of troops, with cannon. In the mean while General Angereau repaired to the barracks, where the grenadiers of the Legiſlative Body were quartered, and, having aſſembled them, aſked if they would follow him? to which they all anſwered with one voice, Yes. They then demanded to ſee their *ci-devant* Commander Ramel, and degraded him by pulling off his epaulets, and then marched to offer their ſervices to the Directory. At ſeven the arreſted Deputies were conveyed in ſix or ſeven carriages to the Temple. At twelve, in conſequence of an advertiſment poſted on the doors of both Councils, the Council of Five Hundred aſſembled at the Odeon, the ancient French Theatre, near the Directory; and the Elders, at the School of Surgery, not far from thence. During the whole day the bridges and the chief poſts were guarded by the troops; the ſtreets, eſpecially about the Directory and Councils, were crouded with incredible numbers of inquiſitive perſons, who ſeemed to be guided by no other motive than curioſity. Not the leaſt outrage was committed, and the utmoſt order and tranquillity reigned in every quarter of the city.

In this manner a Revolution was effected; of which it is unneceſſary to add, that the plot was a mere pretence of the Directory, in conſequence of which they were releaſed from a formidable oppoſition to their meaſures. Pichegru and the reſt were baniſhed to Cayenne, from whence ſome of them made their eſcape.

ANECDOTES AND GLEANINGS,

FROM THE WORKS OF THE LATE LORD ORFORD.

The Queen.

Arlington-ſtreet September 9, 1761.

YESTERDAY at a quarter after three, ſhe arrived at St James's. In half an hour one heard nothing but proclamations of her beauty; every body was content, every body pleaſed. At ſeven one went to court. The night was ſultry. About ten, the proceſſion began to move toward the chapel, and at eleven, they all came up into the drawing-room. She looks very ſenſible, cheerful, and is remarkably genteel. Her tiara of diamonds was very pretty, her ſtomacher ſumptuous: her violet velvet mantle and ermine ſo heavy, that the ſpectators knew as much of the upper half as the king himſelf. You will have no doubts of her ſenſe, by what I ſhall tell you. On the road, they wanted her to curl her toupet: ſhe ſaid ſhe thought it looked as well as that of any of the Ladies ſent to fetch her; if the king bid her, ſhe would wear a periwig, otherwiſe ſhe would remain as ſhe was. When ſhe caught the firſt glimpſe of the palace, ſhe grew frightened, and turned pale; the Ducheſs of Hamilton ſmiled—the Princeſs ſaid, 'My dear Ducheſs, you may laugh, you have been married twice, but it is no joke to me.' Her lips trembled as the coach ſtopped, but ſhe jumped out with ſpirit, and has done nothing but with good-humour and cheerfulneſs. She talks a great deal, is eaſy, civil, and not diſconcerted.

The Coronation.

September 25, 1761.

OF all the incidents of the day, the moſt diverting was, what happened to the Queen. She had a retiring chamber, with *all* conveniencies, prepared behind the altar. She went thither—in the *moſt convenient*, what found ſhe but—the Duke of Newcaſtle!!

The crowds at the opera and play when the King and Queen go, are a little greater than what I remember. The late royalties went to the Haymarket when it was the faſhion to frequent the opera in Lincoln's-Inn-fields. Lord Cheſterfield one night came into the latter, and was aſked, if he had been at the other houſe? 'Yes,' ſaid he, 'but there was nobody but the King and Queen; and as I thought they might be talking buſineſs, I came away.'

Lunacy.—Sir Fletcher Norton.

Strawberry-hill, October 1764.

I AM charmed with an anſwer I have juſt read in the papers, of a poor man in Bedlam, who was ill uſed by an apprentice, becauſe he would not tell him why he was confined there. The unhappy creature ſaid at laſt, 'Becauſe God has deprived me of a bleſſing, which you never enjoyed.' There never was any thing finer or more moving! Your ſenſibility will not be quite ſo much affected by a ſtory I heard t'other day of Sir Fletcher Norton. He has a mother who lives in a mighty ſhabby hovel at Preſton, which the dutiful and affectionate Sir Fletcher, began to think not ſuitable to the dignity of one who has the honour of being his parent. He cheapened a better, in which were two pictures, which the proprietor valued at threeſcore pounds. The *attorney* (General) inſiſted on having them for nothing as fixtures—the landlord refuſed, the bargain was broken off, and the dowager madam Norton remains in her original hut.

French Trees.

Amiens, September 1765.

FOR a French abſurdity, I have obſerved that along the great roads they plant walnut-trees, but ſtrip them up for firing. It is like the owl that bit off the feet of the mice, that they might lie ſtill and fatten.

Corruption of Taſte.

Strawberry-hill, 1759.

YOU perceive how barren I am, and why I have not written to you.

I paſs

I pass my time in clipping and pasting prints; and do not think I have read forty pages since I came to England. I bought a poem called Trincalo's Trip to the Jubilee; having been struck with two lines in an extract in the papers:

And the ear-piercing fife,
And the ear-piercing wife.—

Alas! all the rest, and it is very long, is a heap of unintelligible nonsense, about Shakspeare, politics, and the Lord knows what. I am grieved that, with our admiration of Shakspeare, we can do nothing but write worse than he did. One would think the age studied nothing but his Love's Labour Lost, and Titus Andronicus. Politics and abuse have totally corrupted our taste. Nobody thinks of writing a line that is to last beyond the next fortnight. We might as well be given up to controversial divinity. The times put me in mind of the Constantinopolitan empire; where, in an age of learning, the subtlest wits of Greece contrived to leave nothing behind them, but the memory of their follies and acrimony. Milton did not write his Paradise Lost, till he had outlived his politics. With all his parts, and noble sentiments of liberty, who would remember him for his barbarous prose? Nothing is more true than that extremes meet. The licentiousness of the press makes us as savage as our Saxon ancestors, who could only set their marks; and an outrageous pursuit of individual independence, grounded on selfish views, extinguishes genius as much as despotism does. The public good of our country is never thought of by men that hate half their country. Heroes confine their ambition to be leaders of the mob. Orators seek applause from their faction, not from posterity; and ministers forget foreign enemies, to defend themselves against a majority in parliament. When any Cæsar has conquered Gaul, I will excuse him from aiming at the perpetual dictature. If he has only jockeyed somebody out of the borough of Veii or Falernum, it is too impudent to call himself a patriot or statesman.

Gray, the Poet.

Paris, 1771.

I was struck in a most sensible manner, when, after reading your letter, I saw in the newspapers that Gray is dead! So very ancient an intimacy, and, I suppose, the natural reflection to self on losing a person but a year older, made me absolutely start in my chair. It seemed more a corporeal than a mental blow; and yet I am exceedingly concerned for him, and every body must be so for the loss of such a genius. He called on me but two or three days before I came hither; he complained of being ill, and talked of the gout in his stomach—but I expected his death no more than my own—and yet the same death will probably be mine—I am full of all these reflections—but shall not attrist you with them: only do not wonder that my letter will be short, when my mind is full of what I do not give vent to. It was but last night that I was thinking how few persons last, if one lives to be old, to whom one can talk without reserve. It is impossible to be intimate with the young, because they and the old cannot converse on the same common topics; and of the old that survive, there are few one can commence a friendship with, because one has probably all one's life despised their hearts or their understandings. These are the steps through which one passes to the enviable lees of life.

Humorous Description.

Late Strawberry-hill, Jan. 7, 1772.

You have read of my calamity without knowing it, and will pity me when you do. I have been blown up; my castle is blown up; Guy Fawkes has been about my house; and the 5th of November has fallen on the 6th of January! In short, nine thousand powder-mills broke loose yester-

yeſterday morning on Hounſlow heath; a whole ſquadron of them came hither, and have broken eight of my painted-glaſs windows; and the north ſide of the caſtle looks as if it had ſtood a ſiege. The two ſaints in the hall have ſuffered martyrdom! They have had their bodies cut off, and nothing remains but their heads. The two next great ſufferers are indeed two of the leaſt valuable, being the paſſage windows to the library and great parlour—a fine pane is demoliſhed in the round room: and the window by the gallery is damaged—As lieutenant-general of the ordnance, I muſt beſeech you to give ſtrict orders that no more powder-mills may blow up. My aunt, Mrs Kerwood, reading one day in the papers, that a diſtiller's had been burnt by the head of the ſtill flying off, ſaid, ſhe wondered they did not make an act of parliament againſt the heads of ſtills flying off. Now I hold it much eaſier for you to do a body this ſervice; and would recommend to your conſideration, whether it would not be prudent to have all magazines of powder kept under water, till they are wanted for ſervice. In the mean time, I expect a penſion to make me amends for what I have ſuffered under the government.

The Abbe Raynal.

Strawberry hill, 1774.

The abbe Raynal, though he wrote that fine work on the Commerce of the two Indies, is the moſt tireſome creature in the world. The firſt time I met him was at the dull baron D'Olbach's: we were twelve at table: I intended opening my mouth in French, before ſo many people and ſo many ſervants: he began queſtioning me, croſs the table, about our colonies, which I underſtood as I do Coptic. I made him ſigns I was deaf. After dinner he found I was not, and never forgave me.

The Bath Vaſe.

Arlington-ſtreet, January 1775.

You muſt know, that near Bath is erected a new Parnaſſus, compoſed of three laurels, a myrtle-tree, a weeping-willow, and a view of the Avon, which has been new chriſtened Helicon. Ten years ago there lived a madam ——, an old rough humouriſt who paſſed for a wit; her daughter who paſſed for nothing, married to a captain ——, full of good-natured officiouſneſs. Theſe good folks were friends of Miſs Rich, who carried me to dine with them at —— now Pindus. They caught a little of what was then called taſte, built and planted, and begot children, till the whole caravan was forced to go abroad to retrieve. Alas! Mrs —— is returned a beauty, a genius, a Sappho, a tenth muſe, as romantic as madamoiſelle Scuderi, and as ſophiſticated as Mrs V——. The captain's fingers are loaded with cameos, his tongue runs over with virtu; and that both may contribute to the improvement of their own country, they have introduced *bouts-rimés* as a new diſcovery. They hold Parnaſſus-fair every Thurſday, give out rhymes and themes, and all the flux of quality at Bath contend for the prizes. A Roman vaſe dreſſed with pink ribbons and myrtles receives the poetry, which is drawn out every feſtival: ſix judges of theſe Olympic games retire and ſelect the brighteſt compoſitions, which the reſpective ſucceſsful acknowledge, kneel to Mrs Calliope ——, kiſs her fair hand, and are crowned by it with myrtle, with—I don't know what. You may think this a fiction, or exaggeration—Be dumb, unbelievers! The collection is printed, publiſhed—Yes, on my faith! there are *bouts rimés* on a buttered muffin, by her grace the Dutcheſs of Northumberland; receipts to make them by Corydon the venerable, alias ——; others very pretty, by Lord P——; ſome by Lord C——; many by Mrs —— herſelf, that have no fault but wanting metre; and immortality promiſed to her without end or meaſure. In ſhort,

ſince

ſince folly, which never ripens to madneſs but in this hot climate, ran diſtracted, there never was any thing ſo entertaining, or ſo dull—for you cannot read ſo long as I have been telling.

Air Balloons.

Strawberry-hill, October 1784.

As I was writing this, my ſervants called me away to ſee a balloon. I ſuppoſe Blanchard's, that was to be let off from Chelſea this morning. I ſaw it from the common field before the window of my round tower. It appeared about a third of the ſize of the moon, or leſs, when ſetting, ſomething above the tops of the trees on the level horizon. It was then deſcending; and after riſing and declining a little, it ſunk ſlowly behind the trees, I ſhould think about or beyond Sunbury, at five minutes after one. But you know I am a very inexact gueſſer at meaſures and diſtances, and may be miſtaken in many miles; and you know how little I have attended to thoſe *airgonauts*: only t'other night I diverted myſelf with a ſort of meditation on future *airgonation*, ſuppoſing that it will not only be perfected, but will depoſe navigation. I did not finiſh it, becauſe I am not ſkilled, like the gentleman that uſed to write political-ſhip news, in that ſtyle which I wanted to perfect my eſſay: but in the prelude I obſerved how ignorant the ancients were in ſuppoſing Icarus melted the wax of his wings by too near acceſs to the ſun, whereas he would have been frozen to death before he made the firſt poſt on that road. Next, I diſcovered an alliance between Biſhop Wilkins' art of flying and his plan of an univerſal language, the latter of which he no doubt calculated to prevent the want of an interpreter when he ſhould arrive at the moon.

But I chiefly amuſed myſelf with ideas of the change that would be made in the world by the ſubſtitution of balloons to ſhips. I ſuppoſed our ſea-ports to become deſerted villages, and Saliſbury plain, Newmarket-heath (another canvas for alteration of ideas) and all Downs (but *the* Downs) arriving into dockyards for aerial veſſels. Such a field would be ample in furniſhing new ſpeculations—But to come to my ſhip news:

The good balloon Dædalus, captain Wing-ate, will fly in a few days for China: he will ſtop at the top of the Monument to take in paſſengers.

Arrived on Brand-ſands, the Vulture, captain Nabob; the Tortoiſeſnow, from Lapland; the Pet-en-l'air from Verſailles; the Dreadnought, from Mount Etna, Sir William Hamilton, commander; the Tympany, Montgolfier; and the Mine—A—in a bandbox, from the Cape of Good Hope. Foundered in a hurricane, the Bird of Paradiſe, from Mount Ararat. The Bubble, Sheldon, took fire, and was burnt to her gallery; and the Phœnix is to be cut down to a ſecond rate.—In thoſe days Old Sarum will again be a town, and have houſes in it. There will be fights in the air with wind-guns and bows and arrows; and there will be prodigious increaſe of land for tillage, eſpecially in France, by breaking up all public roads as uſeleſs.—But enough of my fooleries, for which I am ſorry you muſt pay double poſtage.

Ducheſs of York.

Strawberry-hill, October 1792.

The Ducheſs of York gave a great entertainment at Oatlands on her duke's birth-day, ſent to his tradeſmen in town to come to it, and allowed two guineas a piece to each for their carriage—gave them a dance, and opened the ball herſelf with the Prince of Wales. A company of ſtrollers came to Weybridge, to act in a barn; ſhe was ſolicited to go to it, and did out of charity, and carried all her ſervants. Next day, a methodiſt teacher came to preach a charity ſermon in the ſame theatre, and ſhe conſented to hear it on the

ſame

ſame motive—but her ſervants deſired to be excuſed, on not underſtanding Engliſh.—' Oh!' ſaid the Ducheſs, ' but you went to the comedy, which you underſtood leſs, and you ſhall go to the ſermon;' to which ſhe gave handſomely, and for them. I like this.

ON PARLIAMENTARY ORATORY.

Mr Locke has obſerved, that there are many ideas in all languages, to which no diſtinct terms have been annexed: and we may with equal propriety obſerve, that there are many terms in our language, to which no diſtinct ideas have been annexed.—Of this deſcription, the ſchools, the court and the ſenate, afford ſome inſtances; but to paſs over the two former the following inſtances of parliamentary eloquence are truly moſt ridiculous, and yet they are ſuch as we hear every day repeated which if they are not abſolute falſeiſms are at leaſt extremely incorrect. What is meant by the common expreſſion, when a member riſes to ſpeak, of "Catching the ſpeaker's eye?" If it means any thing, I ſhould apprehend it muſt mean nearly the reverſe of what the words import, namely, that the ſpeaker's eye catches the member firſt, and ſo gives the precedence in ſpeaking. We are ſometimes informed, that an honourable member was "Upon his legs" three hours; to ſignify, by a kind of metalepſis, that he ſpoke for that time. Among the orators of antiquity, the hands had a cloſe connection with the tongue: but I recollect no particular connection between the legs and that organ. Then we are told, of "The ideas of the orator meeting the ideas of the houſe." This is a bold ſpecies of perſonification, and rather, I think, beyond the limits of rhetoric, whoſe indulgences are yet very great. It ſuppoſes the ideas of both parties to leave their ſubjects of adheſion, and to make an excurſion abroad. Next we hear of "Truiſms"..." Of gentlemen's committing themſelves;"..." Of their taking ſhame to themſelves;"..."Of their being free to confeſs;"..." Of their putting the queſtion roundly;" that is, leaving no crevice for evaſion: *but this has been found impracticable with the miniſter*; &c. &c.... We are not permitted to report the debates, and therefore cannot produce a ſpecimen from real life including theſe delicacies of ſpeech; but we may without impropriety ſuppoſe a caſe, and it might run thus:—

'The honourable member "Caught the ſpeaker's eye" (the ſpeaker was obſerved to be nodding) preciſely at half paſt four in the morning, and was "on his legs," two hours. After a torrent of eloquence which bore down all oppoſition, he obſerved that the queſtion,..." He was free to confeſs," was a queſtion of vaſt magnitude. What he had hitherto advanced upon the ſubject, formed a chain of "Truiſms" that was altogether irrefragable. And were he diſpoſed to puſh the inveſtigation ſtill further, he, "for one," entertained no doubt. "In his own mind," but his ideas would "meet the ideas of the houſe." This however, was an honour, which he ſhould at preſent decline, as he wiſhed not, at this late hour, "to commit himſelf." Upon a future day, he would avail himſelf of his privilege in putting ſome queſtions "roundly" and the right honourable gentleman ought to "take ſhame to himſelf," if he did not anſwer them "fairly."

I am, Sir, yours, &c. &c.

A.

Sept. 1798.

VIEW

VIEW OF THE ORIGIN AND NATURE OF FABLE.

CONCLUDED FROM PAGE 752.

FABLES, it is univerſally allowed, were the firſt pieces of wit that appeared in the world; in ſcripture we have ſome inſtances, as Jotham's fable of the trees, and Nathan's fable of the poor man and his lamb, which has been quoted and commented upon probably more than any thing of the kind. Nothing indeed can be a more ſtriking trait of human nature, than the quick-ſightedneſs of David in judging what was right in the caſe of another, nor can there be a finer leſſon to oppreſſors, than his ſhame and penitence when the prophet made the application, 'Thou art the Man.'

Of profane authors, Eſop holds the moſt diſtinguiſhed rank in this ſpecies of writing. Though not the inventor, he excelled all others ſo far as to be generally reckoned ſuch. It appears very plainly from the words of Socrates and Phædrus, each of whom tranſlated ſome of the fables of Eſop, that he wrote them in proſe; though the invention which generally attends them, and which is the more eſſential part of poetry, made Socrates regard them as a poetical work. The diſtinguiſhing character of Eſop's ſtyle ſeems to have been that of elegant ſimplicity; it was very plain, ſhort, and clear; and his writings have been highly admired for their good ſenſe and uſefulneſs in all ages. The plans of his fables are commended for the ſame elegance as his ſtyle. He has been highly admired for his writings of this kind in all nations. Quintilian recommends them as the firſt object in the inſtruction of children; and Plato, when he is baniſhing the fabulous ſtories of Homer and Heſiod, adviſes the uſe of this ſort of fables in his commonwealth, in both of which he is ſtrongly followed by Philoſtratus; who ſays, that they were more proper than all other fables, to inſpire us with wiſdom. The Athenians, in the age when learning was at its greateſt perfection among them, ſhewed their high opinion of Eſop and his writings, by the noble ſtatue they erected to his memory, and by the celebrated ſculptor Lyſippus, they employed for that purpoſe.

The great excellence, it has been often obſerved, of his way of writing, conſiſts in blending of the agreeable and the inſtructive ſo well together; from which Horace might poſſibly take the hint for that rule, which he ſeems to diſtinguiſh as the moſt conſiderable of any in his Art of Poetry. It is not wonderful that works ſo uſeful, ſo pleaſing, and ſo much recommended, were in every body's hands: they were ſo eſpecially at Athens, the great ſeat of ſcience, and about the time that arts and knowledge were both at their height. The Fables of Eſop were generally the firſt book which was read by their youth. Plutarch mentions Eſop among the authors moſt proper for forming philoſophers; and indeed his diſtinguiſhing character was wiſdom, attended with a perpetual flow of pleaſantry. Phædrus calls him the Sage, and ſays, that he ſaw through all nature.

Eſop, however, has not been ſo favourably treated by the moderns. His perſon has been repreſented as a lump of deformity, and painters are under the neceſſity of repreſenting him in this light, to make their pictures reſemble the fancied figure. There is not, however, the ſmalleſt foundation for ſuppoſing that he was deformed. It ſtands ſingly upon the authority of a modern author, Planudes, whoſe miſrepreſentations have been ſince fully refuted.

Of modern fabaliſts, Sir Roger L'Eſtrange, a voluminous political writer of the laſt century, deſerves to be mentioned firſt, as having given one of the earlieſt tranſlations of Eſop, but certainly one of the worſt. He burleſqued Eſop by the coarſeneſs and vul-

vulgarity of his ſtyle. We read, for example, that 'while the Frog and the Mouſe were diſputing it at ſwords point, down comes a Kite powdering upon them in the interim, and gobbels up both together to part the fray.' And the Fox reproaches 'a bevy of jolly goſſiping wretches making merry over a diſh of pullets, that, if he but peeped into a hen-rooſt, they always made a bawling with their dogs and their baſtards; while you yourſelves, ſays he, can lie ſtuffing your guts with your hens and your capons, and not a word of the pudding.' This may be familiar, but is alſo coarſe and vulgar, and cannot fail to diſguſt a reader that has the leaſt degree of taſte and delicacy.

Ogilby, a writer of the ſame period, publiſhed Eſop's fables in verſe, and in tolerable verſe, to which he added ſome of his own.

Croxall's edition gained ſome reputation at firſt, but his additions ſhowed that he did not underſtand the true genius of fable. It has been formerly remarked, that a fable offends againſt perſpicuity, when it leaves us doubtful what truth the fabuliſt intended to convey. We have a ſtriking example of this in Croxall's fable of the creaking wheel, as was noticed in our laſt paper.

Other collections of Eſop have been lately formed, of various degrees of merit; that of Dodſley is undoubtedly the moſt free from objection, as he perfectly underſtood the nature of fable, and has illuſtrated his ſubject by many pertinent remarks, of which we have availed ourſelves on the preſent occaſion. Two Engliſh fabuliſts, however, remain, whom it is neceſſary to ſelect from the common ranks, Dryden and Gay.

Of Dryden we have already made mention. Dr Johnſon ſays, he firſt gave us an example of a mode of writing which the Italians call *refacciamento*, a renovation of ancient writers, by modernizing their language. But he was not remarkable for preſerving character. We have cited the Hind and Panther as an inſtance. It is an allegory intended to compriſe and decide the controverſy between the Romaniſts and Proteſtants. The ſcheme of the work is injudicious and incommodious; for what can be more abſurd, that one beaſt ſhould counſel another to reſt her faith upon a pope and council? He ſeems well enough ſkilled in the uſual topics of argument, endeavours to ſhow the neceſſity of an infallible judge, and reproaches the reformers with want of unity: but is weak enough to aſk, why, ſince we ſee without knowing how, we may not have an infallible judge without knowing where? The Hind at one time is afraid to drink at the common brook, becauſe ſhe may be worried; but walking home with the Panther, talks by the way of the Nicene creed, and at laſt declares herſelf to be of the catholic church.

Dryden has been very juſtly blamed for this inconſiſtency of character. Eſop, though he makes his feigned perſons, that is, his birds and beaſts, converſe and reaſon, yet he always preſerves character. This may be illuſtrated by an inſtance alluded to in our laſt paper. A dog, with a piece of meat in his mouth, looking into a pool of water, imagines he ſees there another dog, with a piece of meat in his mouth; he ſnatches at that, and thereby loſes his own. This is all very natural to a dog, and a plain moral is to be deduced, namely, that we gave up certainty for hope, when we greedily graſp at having too much. Now, ſuppoſe a colonel of horſe had thrown up his regiment in the hope of getting a higher command, and was diſappointed, Eſop's fable might be aptly applied to him, but it would be abſurd to ſay, that the dog ſeeing another dog in the water, with a piece of meat in his mouth, dropped the piece that was in his own mouth, and ſo loſt his regiment of horſe. This

were

were to confound the ſtory alluded to with the alluſion itſelf, the fable with the moral,

Gay's Fables, ſays Dr Johnſon, ſeems to have been a favourite work; for having publiſhed one volume, he left another behind him. Of this kind of fables, the ſame author juſtly obſerves, writers do not appear to have formed any diſtinct or ſettled notion. Phædrus evidently confounds them with Tales, and Gay both with Tales and Allegorical Proſopopeias. A Fable, or Apologue, ſuch as is now under conſideration, ſeems to be, in its genuine ſtate, a narrative in which beings irrational, and ſometimes inanimate, are, for the purpoſe of moral inſtruction, feigned to act and ſpeak with human intereſts and paſſions. To this deſcription the compoſitions of Gay do not always conform. For a fable, he gives now and then a tale, or an abſtracted allegory; and from ſome, by whatever name they may be called, it will be difficult to extract any moral principle. They are, however, told with livelineſs; the verſification is ſmooth; and the diction is generally happy. There are few more favourite books among young people.

The laſt author we ſhall mention, and perhaps the moſt celebrated of the moderns, is John de la Fontaine, who in his fables merits the character of an original writer. In his ſubjects, indeed, he had made great uſe of the Greek, and Latin, and French, and Italian authors; but he is truly original in his manner, which is ſo eaſy, ſo natural, ſo ſimple, ſo delicate, that it does not ſeem poſſible to exceed it. His compoſitions have much nature, entirely devoid of affectation; his wit ſeems unſtudied, and ſo much pleaſantry is hardly to be met with. He never grows languid or heavy, but is always new and ſurpriſing. His firſt fables are more valued than his laſt: he ſeems to have thrown the beſt of his fire and force into them; and both the one and the other have more ſobriety and correctneſs than his tales, the indelicacy of many of which has been juſtly condemned.

It now only remains that we ſhould notice the objections that have been made to fable in general, as a mode of inſtruction. Rouſſeau is the moſt formidable champion on this ſide of the queſtion; and his ſentiments are briefly theſe: the words of a fable are no more the fable itſelf, than thoſe of a hiſtory are the hiſtory. How is it poſſible men can be ſo blind as to call fables the moral lectures for children, without reflecting that apologue, in amuſing, only deceives them; and that, ſeduced by charms of falſehood, the truth couched underneath it eſcapes their notice! Yet ſo it is and the means which are thus taken to render inſtruction agreeable, prevents their profiting by it. Fable may inſtruct grown perſons, but the naked truth ſhould ever be preſented to children; for if we once ſpread over it a veil, they will not take the trouble to draw it aſide in order to look at it. A child does not comprehend the fables which he gets by rote; becauſe, whatever pains we take to render them ſimple, the inſtruction we would deduce from them is attended with other ideas above his capacity. Rouſſeau then attacks Fontaine's fables, which, indeed, ſeems to be his chief object, but in thoſe criticiſms we ſhall not follow him.

To the main objection, one anſwer may be ſufficient; if the danger is from children miſtaking falſehood for truth, and making an improper application of the fable, the ſame objection will ſweep away all works of fiction whatſoever, and Rouſſeau's among the reſt.

We are more diſpoſed to agree with thoſe, who, from the univerſal and earlieſt practice of mankind, have agreed upon the uſefulneſs of fable. Whether it be that men cannot bear the whole glare and weight of truth,

and are better pleaſed to behold it clouded under ſhadows and fictions, or whether they are more affected with the images and reſemblances of things, than with the truth and reality itſelf; it is certain, that fables are the moſt eaſy, winning, and engaging way of teaching; the moſt effectual and proper means to inſpire men with a love of virtue, and a hatred and averſion of vice. This is an advantage that the wiſeſt and oldeſt, as well as the youngeſt, may equally reap from them. The firſt of theſe will admire the weighty important truths, which are ſo artfully wrapped up, and incloſed within the foldings of thoſe agreeable fictions. The younger ſort, who look no farther than the ſhell or rind of theſe ingenious tales, may not only find the pleaſure they ſeek after; but, as they grow up, before they are aware of it, will receive theſe ſolid and uſeful inſtructions which they never at firſt troubled themſelves about, and never ſo much as thought of enquiring after. And it is indeed for thoſe principally, that apologues are deſigned. Their minds, like weak ſtomachs, will not bear the more ſolid food, and are not able to digeſt the graver advices, and ſeverer rules of philoſophical inſtructions. Truth therefore muſt be diſguiſed, and poured with a pleaſant vehicle into their hearts. The pill muſt be gilded over, the bitter potion muſt be ſweetened, and rendered pleaſing to their palates. By the help of theſe agreeable fictions, a maſter or tutor will find a large field and great opportunities of applying his inſtructions. He may, as if it were accidentally, and without deſign, pick out ſuch of them as are fitteſt to recommend theſe virtues and good qualities which he finds his pupils moſtly averſe to, and deter them from thoſe vices to which they ſhew the ſtrongeſt bias and inclination.

NEW AND CURIOUS PARTICULARS RESPECTING THE CHINESE EMPIRE.

CONCLUDED FROM P. 681.

ON the ambaſſador's return to Pekin, his entrance into that capital was attended with the uſual honours; and he received the cuſtomary viſits from the principal mandarines, ſeveral of whom were in waiting for him at his hotel. Yet he was aware of the propriety of fixing a limit to his embaſſy. The permanent reſidence of a miniſter in China, from a foreign court, was yet utterly unknown in that country. The maxim of conſidering foreign ambaſſadors as gueſts, whoſe charges it was becoming to defray at the public charge, while they continued in the country, led naturally to the rule of putting, quickly, a period to their ſtay. The extraordinary degree of expence, which the ſplendid treatment given to the Engliſh, occaſioned to the emperor, was an additional argument againſt the prolongation of the viſit, as it would have been an abuſe of the hoſpitality with which they were preſſed. It would have offended too much the pride and prejudices of the Chineſe nation, to have preſſed, abruptly, a propoſal in this firſt diplomatic miſſion, for giving up its ancient notions in regard to public viſitors, and for ſuffering them to bear their own expences, while yet within the dominions of China. His excellency was determined, therefore, to deſire leave to depart, after the great feſtival, in the beginning of the Chineſe year, in February. During that interval, whatever he could reaſonably hope to obtain, or ought to apply for, might be accompliſhed; and an amicable and frequent intercourſe might gradually be eſtabliſhed for the mutual convenience of both nations.

The return of the embaſſy, moreover, is ſaid to have been haſtened by the deſire of bringing ſafe from China,

na, under convoy of the Lion, the fleet of Indiamen, which was endangered by the breaking out of the war with the French republic. With this purpose, the following observations, suggested by a friendly person, who was thoroughly acquainted with the court of Pekin, powerfully co-operated. They may be considered as a summary of the foreign policy of the Chinese, and of the probable consequences of the embassy.

'The Chinese,' says the writer, 'had no other idea of an embassy, than that of a visit with presents on some solemn festival, and to last only during the continuance of the latter; that accordingly, of the many embassies sent to them in the past and present century, none of them were suffered to pass that period; that in the present reign, the ambassador of the Portuguese, the most favoured nation, was dismissed in thirty-nine days; that the Chinese had little notion of entering into treaties with foreign countries; but whatever business might be desireable to transact with them, must, after a favourable foundation for it, laid by the compliment of an embassy, be afterward prosecuted to effect by slow degrees, for that much might be obtained from them by time and management, but nothing suddenly. That it was true, the oppressions by the inferior officers, and others who had to deal with strangers at Canton, had been augmenting gradually; and, unless curbed by power, must, in the course of time, become so heavy as to leave no alternative but that of giving up the trade entirely, or of sending at last an embassy to remonstrate against them; that the sooner, therefore, it had been undertaken, the better; that had the present arrived sooner, and before the troubles in France had indisposed the Chinese ministry and tribunals against the smallest innovation, it would have had fewer difficulties to encounter in the outset; but that the present mission had made such an impression throughout the empire, as must lead to beneficial consequences in favour of the English, notwithstanding any momentary obstructions; and that henceforward the oppressions would at least be at a stand: that such was the nature and practice of the Chinese government, that however adverse in the beginning to any new propositions, lest it should be surprised into undue concessions, or any improper regulation, the same matters might be brought again, when the novelty of the idea was over, into a more serious and dispassionate consideration; that this event might be accelerated by the means of letters sent from one Sovereign to the other by the annual ships, which might be done without impropriety, now that the communication had been opened between them in a fit manner.' He concluded by advising against persisting to continue any longer at Pekin.

The embassy returned to England on the 6th of September 1794, having been absent just two years of this space of time, upward of five months were spent in China, in which country, from Che-kol to Canton, they travelled on their return chiefly by canals, nearly twenty degrees of latitude.—We shall not give any extracts from the interesting chapters containing the journey from Hanchoufoo: and thence to Canton. Let it suffice to observe, that the middle and northern provinces are not less populous and flourishing than those in the neighbourhood of the capital.

Much information might yet be selected, but our limits oblige us to forbear. The Chinese empire is one of the greatest civil objects that the imagination can contemplate;—a territory fifteen times as extensive as the island of Great Britain, containing 333,000,000 of inhabitants, and composing above a third part of the whole existing generations of men scattered over the earth, not only united by the strong

ſtrong hand of power, under the ſame dominion, but harmoniſed by the ſame laws, manners, and civil and military inſtitutions; cultivating the ſame arts and ſciences, ſpeaking and writing the language; and with all this wonderful uniformity among themſelves, totally diſſimilar in their cuſtoms, purſuits, and attainments, from every other portion either of the ſavage or civilized world. How completely they differ from the nations of Europe, and how little communication muſt, till very lately, have taken place between thoſe widely ſeparated communities, are evident from the perpetual contrariety in matters of little moment as well as in particulars of the moſt importance. In Europe, the right hand is the place of honour: in China, it is the left. The white colour in Europe is the emblem of joy and feſtivity, of youth and innocence: in China, the ſame colour betokens lamentation and ſorrow: it is rigorouſly proſcribed in ſcenes of gayety, and excluſively employed in funeral proceſſions. In Europe, parents tranſmit nobility to their children: in China, nobility by deſcent is unknown; but a man, who is rendered illuſtrious on account of his own merit, communicates the honours of rank and title to his deceaſed progenitors. Hanging is the puniſhment which conveys moſt degradation in Europe: but, in China, hanging is leſs infamous than beheading. Even in a particular which is ſuppoſed to form the only link of connexion between them, and to have been introduced from the one country to the other,—the mariner's compaſs,—the theory of the Chineſe is directly the reverſe of that which is prevalent in Europe. The power which attracts the needle may be ſuppoſed to reſide in either pole, in Europe, it it thought that the needle has its chief tendency to the north; but in China, the ſouth alone is ſuppoſed to contain the attractive power. The Chineſe name of the compaſs is *Ting-nan-ching*, or *Needle pointing to the ſouth*; and a diſtinguiſhing mark is fixed on the magnet's ſouthern pole, as in European countries on the northern one.—The government of China, moreover, is ſingular in this, that the throne does not borrow any ſupport from the altar; and yet that is perhaps the moſt firmly eſtabliſhed of any on earth.

Of the Chineſe language we have already given an account vol. 4. New Series p. 866*, and ſhall only further add here, that the principal difficulty, in ſtudying Chineſe books ariſes from the general excluſion of the auxiliary particle of colloquial language. The Chineſe characters are in fact ſketches, or abridged figures; and a ſentence is often a ſtring of metaphors. The words of an alphabetic language may be read without the leaſt knowledge of their meaning; not ſo the hieroglyphic language, which is only to be learned by becoming acquainted with the ſignification or notion attached to each mark. A dictionary of hieroglyphics is leſs a vocabulary of the terms of one language with the correſpondent terms in another, than an encyclopedia, containing explanations of the ideas themſelves, repreſented by ſuch hieroglyphics. In this ſenſe, only, can the acquiſition of Chineſe words be juſtly ſaid to engroſs moſt of the time of men of learning among them. To excel in languages is to excel in learning; and to be maſter of the Chineſe language is to underſtand all the arts and ſciences, as far as they have been improved, and are known, among that people.

* For ſundry remarkable anecdotes and occurrencies in this embaſſy, ſee p. 235.

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REMARKS ON THE GOVERNMENT, RELIGION, MANNERS, &c. OF THE NATIVES OF NEW S. WALES.

CONCLUDED FROM PAGE 677.

Superſtition.

LIKE all other children of ignorance, theſe people are the ſlaves of ſuperſtition. I think I may term the car-rah-dy their high-prieſt of ſuperſtition. The ſhare they had in the tooth-drawing ſcenes was not the only inſtance that induced me to ſuppoſe this. When Cole-be accompanied Governor Philips to the banks of the Hawkeſbury, he met with a car-rah-dy, Yel-lo-mun-dy, who, with much geſticulation and mummery, pretended to extract the barbs of two ſpears from his ſide, which never had been left there, or, if they had, required rather the aid of the knife than the incantations of Yel-lo-mun-dy to extract them; but the patient was ſatisfied with the car-rah-dy's efforts to ſerve him, and thought himſelf perfectly relieved.

During the time that Boo-roong (a female native) lived at the clergyman's houſe, ſhe paid occaſional viſits to the lower part of the harbour. From one of theſe ſhe returned extremely ill. On queſtioning her as to the cauſe (for none was apparent), ſhe told us that the women of Cammer-ray had made water in a path which they knew ſhe was to croſs, and it made her ill. Theſe women were inimical to her, as ſhe belonged to the Botany Bay diſtrict. On her intimating to them, that ſhe found herſelf ill, they told her, triumphantly, what they had done. Not recovering, though bled in the arm by Mr White, ſhe underwent an extraordinary and ſuperſtitious operation, where the operator ſuffers more than the patient. She was ſeated on the ground, with one of the lines worn by the men paſſed round her head once, taking care to fix the knot in the centre of the forehead; the remainder of the line was taken by another girl, who ſat at a ſmall diſtance from her, and with the end of it fretted her lips until they bled very copiouſly Boo-roong imagining all the time that the blood came from her head, and paſſed along the line until it ran into the girl's mouth, whence it was ſpit into a ſmall veſſel which ſhe had beſide her, half filled with water, and into which ſhe occaſionally dipt the end of the line. This operation they term be-an-ny, and is the peculiar province of the women.

Another curious inſtance of their ſuperſtition occurred among ſome of our people belonging to a boat that was lying wind-bound in the lower part of the harbour. They had procured ſome ſhell-fiſh, and during the night were preparing to roaſt them, when they were obſerved by one of the natives, who ſhook his head, and exclaimed, that the wind for which they were waiting would not riſe if they roaſted the fiſh. His argument not preventing the ſailors from enjoying their treat, and the wind proving foul, they, in their turn, gave an inſtance of ſuperſtition, by abuſing the native, and attributing to him the foul wind which detained them. On queſtioning Ye-ra-ni-be reſpecting this circumſtance, he aſſured me that the natives never broil fiſh by night.

In a reach of the Hawkeſbury, about midway up ſome high land, ſtands a rock which in its form is not unlike a ſentry-box. Reſpecting this rock, they have a ſuperſtitious tradition, that while ſome natives were one day feaſting under it, ſome of the company whiſtling, it happened to fall from a great height, and cruſhed the whole party under its weight. For this reaſon they make it an invariable rule never to whiſtle under a rock!

Among their other ſuperſtitions was one which might naturally be expected from their ignorance—a belief in ſpirits.

OF

Of this belief we had at different times ſeveral accounts. Ben-nil-long, during his firſt acquaintance with us, deſcribed an apparition as advancing to a perſon with an uncommon noiſe, and ſeizing hold of him by the throat. It came ſlowly along with its body bent, and the hands held together in a line with the face, moving on till it ſeized the party it meant to viſit. We were told by him and others, and that after we underſtood each other, that by ſleeping at the grave of a deceaſed perſon, they would, from what happened to them there, be freed from all future apprehenſions reſpecting apparitions; for during that awful ſleep the ſpirit of the deceaſed would viſit them, ſeize them by the throat, and opening them, take out their bowels, which they would replace, and cloſe up the wound. We underſtood that very few choſe to encounter the dark of the night, the ſolemnity of the grave, and the viſitation of the ſpirit of the deceaſed; but that ſuch as were ſo hardy became immediately car-rah-dys, and that all thoſe who exerciſed that profeſſion had gone through this ceremony.

It is very certain, that even in the day-time they were ſtrangely unwilling to paſs a grave; but I believe, that their tale of being ſeized by the throat by a ghoſt, was nothing more than their having felt the effects of what we term the night-mare during an uneaſy ſleep.

To the ſhooting of a ſtar they attach a degree of importance; and I once, on an occaſion of this kind, ſaw the girl Boo-roong greatly agitated and propheſying much evil to befall all the white men and their habitations. Of thunder and lightning they are all much afraid; but have an idea, that by chanting ſome particular words, and breathing hard, they can diſpel it. Inſtances of this have been ſeen.

Diſpoſitions.

From the different circumſtances that have been related of theſe people, a general idea of their character and diſpoſition may be gathered. They are revengeful, jealous, courageous and cunning. I have never conſidered their ſtealing on each other on the night for the purpoſes of murder as a want of bravery, but have looked on it rather as the effect of the diabolical ſpirit of revenge, which thus ſtruggles to make ſure of its object than it could have done if only oppoſed man to man in the field. Their conduct when thus oppoſed, the conſtancy with which they endured pain, and the alacrity with which they accepted a ſummons to the fight, are ſurely proofs of their not wanting courage. They diſclaim all idea of any ſuperiority that is not perſonal; and I remember when Ben-nil-long had a ſhield, made of tin and covered with leather, preſented to him by Governor Phillip, he took it with him down the harbour, whence he returned without it, telling us that he had loſt it; but in fact, it had been taken from him by the people of the north ſhore diſtrict and deſtroyed; it being deemed unfair to cover himſelf with ſuch a guard.

They might have been honeſt before we came among them, not having much to covet from one another; but from us they often ſtole ſuch things as we would not give them. While they pilfered what could gratify their appetites, it was not to be wondered at; but I have ſeen them ſteal articles of which they could not poſſibly know the uſe. Mr White once being in the midſt of a crowd of natives in the lower part of the harbour, one of them ſaw a ſmall caſe of inſtruments in his pocket, which, watching an opportunity, he ſlyly ſtole, and ran away with; but being obſerved, he was purſued, and made to reſtore his prize. We were little acquainted with them at this time, and therefore the native could not have known the contents of the caſe. Could he have been watched to his retreat, I have no doubt but he would have been ſeen

to lay the caſe on his head, as an ornament, the place to which at firſt every thing we gave them was uſually conſigned.

That they are not ſtrangers to the occaſional practice of falſehood, is apparent from the words *truth* and *falſehood* being found in their language; but, independent of this, we had many proofs of their being adepts in the arts of evaſion and lying; and I have ſeen them, when we have expreſſed doubts of ſome of their tales, aſſure us which much earneſtneſs of the truth of their aſſertions; and when ſpeaking to us of other natives, they have as anxiouſly wiſhed us to believe that they had told us lies.

Their talent for mimickry is very great. It was a favourite diverſion with the children to imitate the peculiarities in any one's gait; and they would go through it with the happieſt ſucceſs.

They are ſuſceptible of friendſhip, and capable of feeling ſorrow; but this latter ſenſation they are not in the habit of encouraging long. When Ba-loo-der-ry, a very fine lad who died among us, was buried, I ſaw the tears ſtreaming ſilently down the ſable cheek of his father Mau-ro-gan; but in a little time they were dried, and the old man's countenance indicated nothing but the laſſe of many years, which had paſſ'd over his head.

With attention and kind treatment they certainly might be made a very ſerviceable people. I have ſeen them employed in a boat as uſefully as any white perſon; and the ſeelers have found ſome among them, who would go out with their ſtock, and carefully bring home the right numbers, though they have not any knowlege of numeration beyond three or four.

Their acquaintance with aſtronomy is limited to the names of the ſun and moon, ſome few ſtars, the Magellanic clouds, and the milky way. Of the circular form of the earth, they have not the ſmalleſt idea, but imagine that the ſun returns over their heads during the night to the quarter whence he begins his courſe in the morning.

As they never make proviſion for the morrow, except at a whale-feaſt, they always eat as long as they have any thing left to eat, and when ſatisfied, ſtretch themſelves out in the ſun to ſleep, where they remain until hunger, or ſome other cauſe, calls them again into action. I have at times obſerved a great degree of indolence in their diſpoſitions, which I have frequently ſeen the men indulge at the expence of the weaker veſſels, the women, who have been forced to ſit in their cauſe, expoſed to the fervour of the mid-day ſun, hour after hour, chaunting their little ſong, and inviting the fiſh beneath them to take their bait; for without a ſufficient quantity to make a meal for their tyrants, who were lying aſleep at their eaſe, they would meet but a rude reception on their landing.

We ſhall now extract a few particulars from Mr Collins' work, reſpecting our *old friends*

The Convicts.

Various curious traits of human nature in her moſt ſingular, and not very amiable forms, are to be met with here. We are happy, however, to find that the eſtabliſhment of this colony has been eminently uſeful as a means of reformation. There are, indeed, exceptions, although many fewer than might have been expected. It may be here mentioned, that in September 1796, when Mr Collins left the place, the total number of perſons under the Britiſh government in New South Wales, and its dependencies, was only 4848.

The firſt paſſage we ſhall ſelect, contains a ſingular anecdote of a convict. In 1788, a convict having been found dead in the woods near the ſettlement, an enquiry into the cauſe of his death was made by the provoſt-marſhal; when it appeared, from the evidence of Mr Balmain, one of the

aſſiſtant-ſurgeons, who attended to open him, and of the people who lived with the deceaſed, that he died through want of nouriſhment, and through weakneſs, occaſioned by the heat of the ſun. It appeared that he had not, for more than a week paſt, eaten his allowance of proviſions, the whole being found in his box. It was proved, by thoſe who knew him, that he was accuſtomed to deny himſelf even what was abſolutely neceſſary to his exiſtence, abſtaining from his proviſions, and ſelling them for money, which he was reſerving, and had ſomewhere concealed, in order to purchaſe his paſſage to England, when his time ſhould expire.

Four Brothers, Convicts.

Early in the month of September 1792, the criminal court was aſſembled for the trial of Benjamin Ingram, a man who had ſerved the term for which he was ordered to be tranſported. He had broken into a houſe belonging to a female convict, in which he was detected packing up her property for removal. Being found guilty, he received ſentence of death; but, on the recommendation of the court, the governor was induced to grant him a pardon, upon condition of his reſiding for life on Norfolk iſland. With this extenſion of mercy, the culprit was not made acquainted till that moment had arrived, which he thought was to ſeparate him from this world for ever. Upon the ladder, and expecting to be turned off, the condition on which his life was ſpared was communicated to him; and with gratitude both to God and the governor, he received the welcome tidings. He afterwards confeſſed, that he had for ſome time paſt been in the habit of committing burglaries and other depradations: for, having taken himſelf off the ſtores to avoid working for the public, he was frequently diſtreſſed for food, and was thus compelled to ſupport himſelf at the expence perhaps of the honeſt and induſtrious. He readily found a raſcal to receive what property he could procure for ſale, and for a long time eſcaped detection. This depraved man had two brothers in the colony; one who came out with him in the firſt fleet, and who had been for ſome time a ſober, hard-working, induſtrious ſettler, having alſo ſerved the time of his tranſportation; the other brother came out in the laſt year, and bore the character of a well behaved man. There was a fourth brother; but he was executed in England. It was ſaid that theſe unfortunate men had honeſt and induſtrious people for their parents; they could not, however, have paid much attention to the morals of their family; for, out of four, ſome might ſurely have laid claim to the character of the parents.

Barrington.

On the 3d of November 1792, three warrants of emancipation paſſed the ſeal of the territory—the third in favour of one who, whatever might have been his conduct while at large in ſociety, had here not only demeaned himſelf with the ſtricteſt propriety, but had rendered eſſential ſervice to the colony—George Barrington. He came out in the Active; on his arrival, the governor employed him at Toongabbe, and in a ſituation which was likely to attract the envy and hatred of the convicts in proportion as he might be vigilant and inflexible. He was firſt placed as a ſubordinate, and ſhortly after as a principal watchman; in which ſituation he was diligent, ſober, and impartial; and had rendered himſelf ſo eminently ſerviceable, that the governor reſolved to draw him from the line of convicts; and, with the inſtrument of his emancipation, he received a grant of thirty acres of land in an eligible ſituation near Parramatta. He was afterward ſworn in as peace-officer. Here was not only a reward for paſt good conduct, but an incitement of a continuance of it; and Barrington found him-

ſelf, through the governor's liberality, though not ſo abſolutely free as to return to England at his own pleaſure, yet enjoying the immunities of a freeman, a ſettler, and a civil officer, in whoſe integrity much confidence was placed.—In September 1796, he received an abſolute pardon under the ſeal of the territory, and was appointed a ſuperintendant of convicts, with a ſalary of 50l. per annum.

Remarkable Profligacy.

Among the occurrences of this month, (January 1793) one appears to deſerve particular notice. On Friday, the 18th, Eleanor M'Cave, the wife of Charles Williams, a ſettler, was drowned, together with an infant child, and a woman of the name of Green. Theſe unfortunate people had been drinking and revelling with Williams, the huſband, and others, at Sydney, and were proceeding to Parramatta in a ſmall boat, in which was a bag of rice belonging to Green. The boat heeling conſiderably, and ſome water getting at the bag, by a movement of Green's to ſave her rice, the boat overſet near Breakfaſt point, and the two women and child were drowned. If aſſiſtance could have been obtained upon the ſpot, the child might have been ſaved; for it was forced from the wretched mother's graſp, juſt before ſhe finally ſunk, and brought on ſhore by the father; but for want of medical aid it expired. The parents of this child were noted in the colony for the general immorality of their conduct; they had been roiting and fighting with each other the moment before they got into the boat; and it was ſaid, that the woman had imprecated every evil to befal her, and the infant ſhe carried about with her, (for ſhe was ſix months gone with child) if ſhe accompanied her huſband to Parramatta. The bodies of theſe two unfortunate women were found a few days afterward, when the wretched and raſcally Williams buried his wife and child within a very few feet of his own door. The profligacy of this man indeed manifeſted itſelf in a ſtrange manner: a ſhort time after he had thus buried his wife, he was ſeen ſitting at his door, with a bottle of rum in his hand, and actually drinking one glaſs and pouring another on her grave until it was emptied, prefacing every libation by declaring how well ſhe had loved it during her life. He appeared to be in a ſtate not far from inſanity, as this anecdote certainly teſtifies; but the melancholy event had not had any effect upon his mind.

Wild Cattle.

A circumſtance happened this month (November 1793) very unexpected and extraordinary. The conteſts which had lately taken place very frequently among the natives, had been attended by many of thoſe people who inhabited the woods, and came from a great diſtance inland. Some of the priſoners gathering from time to time rumours and imperfect accounts of the exiſtence of the cattle loſt in 1788, two of them, who were employed by ſome officers in ſhooting, reſolved on aſcertaining the truth of theſe reports, and trying by different excurſions to diſcover the place of their retreat. On their return from the firſt outſet they made, which was ſubſequent to the governor's arrival, they reported, that they had ſeen them. Being, however, too much engaged in perfecting a civil regulation he had in view for the ſettlement, the governor could not himſelf go to that part of the country where they were ſaid to have been found; but he detached Henry Hacking, a man on whom he could depend. His report was ſo ſatisfactory, that on the 18th, the governor ſet off from Parramatta, attended by a ſmall party, when after travelling two days, in a direction S. S. W. from the ſettlement at Proſpect-hill, he croſſed the river, named by Mr Phillip, the Nepean; and, to his great ſurpriſe and ſatisfaction fell in

with a very fine herd of cattle, upwards of forty in number, grazing in a pleaſant and apparently fertile paſturage. The day being far advanced when he ſaw them, he reſted for the night in their neighbourhood, hoping in the morning to be gratified with a ſight of the whole herd. A doubt had been ſtarted of their being cattle produced from what we brought into the country from the Cape; and it was ſuggeſted that they might be of longer ſtanding. The governor thought this a circumſtance worth determining, and directed the attendants who were with him (Hacking and the two men who had firſt found them) to endeavour in the morning to get near enough to kill a calf. This they were not able to effect; for, while lying in wait for the whole herd to paſs (which now conſiſted of upward of ſixty young and old) they were furiouſly ſet upon by a bull, which brought up the rear, and which in their own defence they were compelled to kill. This, however, anſered the purpoſe better perhaps than a calf might have done; for he had all the marks of the Cape cattle when full grown, ſuch as wide-ſpread horns, a moderate riſing or hump between his ſhoulders, and a ſhort thin tail. Being at this time ſeven or eight and thirty miles from Parramatta, a very ſmall quantity of the meat only could be ſent in; the remainder was left to the crows and dogs of the woods, much to the regret of the governor and his party, who conſidered that the priſoners, particulary the ſick at the hoſpital, had not lately received any meat either ſalt or freſh.

The country where they were found grazing was remarkably pleaſant to the eye; every where the foot trod on thick and luxuriant graſs; the trees were thinly ſcattered, and free from underwood, except in particular ſpots; ſeveral beautiful flats preſented large ponds, covered with ducks and the black ſwan, the margins of which were fringed with ſhrubs of the moſt delightful tints, and the grounds roſe from theſe levels into hills of eaſy aſcent.

The queſtion how theſe cattle came hither appeared eaſy of ſolution. The few that were loſt in 1788, two bulls and five cows, travelled without interruption in a weſtern direction until they came to the banks of the Nepean. Arrived there, and finding the croſſing as eaſy as when the governor forded it, they came at once into a well-watered country, and amply ſtored with graſs. From this place why ſhould they move? They found themſelves in poſſeſſion of a country equal to their ſupport, and in which they remained undiſturbed. We had not yet travelled quite ſo far eaſtward; and few natives were to be found thereabouts; they were likely therefore to remain for years unmoleſted, and ſecurely to propagate their ſpecies.—In June 1796, theſe cattle amounted to ninety-four, not being allowed to be killed, but reſerved as an ultimate reſource.

Theatrical Intelligence!

Some of the more decent claſs of priſoners, male and female, having ſometime ſince obtained permiſſion to prepare a playhouſe at Sidney, it was opened on Saturday, Jan. 16, 1796, under the management of John Sparrow, with the play of the Revenge, and the entertainment of the Hotel. The building coſt upward of one hundred pounds. The names of the principal performers were H. Green, Sparrow, William Folkes, G. H. Hughes, William Chapman, and Mrs Davis. Of the men, Green beſt deſerved to be called an actor. They had fitted up the houſe with more theatrical propriety than could have been expected, and their performance was far above contempt. Their motto was modeſt and well choſen. 'We cannot command ſucceſs, but will endeavour to deſerve it.' Of their dreſſes, the greater part was made by themſelves;

ſelves; but we underſtood that ſome veteran articles from the York theatre were among the beſt that made their appearance.

At the licenſing of this exhibition they were informed, that the ſlighteſt impropriety would be noticed, and a repetition puniſhed by the baniſhment of their company to the other ſettlements; there was, however, more danger of improprieties being committed by ſome of the audience than by the players themſelves. A ſeat in their gallery, which was by far the largeſt place in the houſe, as likely to be the moſt reſorted to, was to be procured for one ſhilling. In the payment of this price for admiſſion, one evil was obſervable, which in fact could not well be prevented; in lieu of a ſhilling, as much flour, or as much meat or ſpirits, as the manager would take for that ſum, was often paid at the gallery door. It was feared that this, like gambling, would furniſh another inducement to rob; and ſome of the worſt of the convicts, ever on the watch for opportunities, looked on the playhouſe as a certain harveſt for them, not by picking the pockets of the audience of their purſes or their watches, but by breaking into their houſes while the whole family might be enjoying themſelves in the gallery. This actually happened on the ſecond night of their playing.

In February, the players, with a politic generoſity, performed the play of the Fair Penitent, with a farce, for the benefit of the family of a ſoldier, who was accidentally drowned. The houſe was full, and it was ſaid that his wife got upward of twelve pounds by the night.

ON DISTINCTIONS OF RANK.

IN ſpeculation, it has ſometimes been queſtioned, whether it would not be conducive to the happineſs of ſociety to exclude diſtinctions of rank. Yet nothing can be more certain, than that ſuch diſtinctions are unavoidable.

Were it poſſible to place men on an equal footing, and to enſure their continuance in ſuch a ſtate, it would repreſs every important exertion, where there were neither motive nor hope of riſing above the common level: nor any fear, becauſe no poſſibility of ſinking below it. Wherever property is eſtabliſhed, all men endeavour to obtain it; but as they are not all equally ſtrong, healthy, nor endowed with the ſame capacity, they cannot all be equally ſucceſsful.

The poſſeſſion of property, by exempting ſome individuals from labour, enables them to obtain knowledge. This opens many ſources of diſtinction, by developing genius, or thoſe ſuperior energies of mind which lead to high attainments, and to the forming and accompliſhing arduous deſigns. Here the view of property may be loſt in the love of fame, or public honour; for there is in the human conſtitution an innate deſire of eminence, which public honours will allure beyond every mercenary conſideration.

An important effect of the eſtabliſhment of property, reſults from the right whereby it is tranſmitted and ſecured in perpetuity to the heirs of the poſſeſſor. This introduces not temporary or perſonal diſtinctions, as thoſe of magiſtracy, of maſter and ſervant, rich and poor, which are alſo inſeparable from the eſtabliſhment of property; but hereditary diſtinctions, connected with hereditary influence.

Affluence and ſplendour come to be conſidered as the birth-right of ſuch families, as have long poſſeſſed an hereditary fortune. This is a natural conſequence of the eſtabliſhment of property; hence men born to thoſe advantages, are in effect, and in common eſtimation, as really diſtinguiſhed by them as though they were inherent, and not merely adventitious endowments. Perhaps the younger branches of ſuch families are not all

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poſſeſſed of property, yet they ſhare in the reſpectability of their connections, and generally poſſeſs the means of heightening ordinary talents, by accompliſhments which reſemble the more immediate gifts of nature.

Were the language of chivalry to be here employed, thoſe families would be ſtyled noble. But whether titles, or names of dignity, be, or be not ſuperadded, the diſtinction itſelf continues, and cannot be ſet aſide, ſo long as property ſhall continue to be ſo powerful an incentive to univerſal induſtry and exertion.

This ſhews that nobility of blood, or hereditary diſtinctions of rank, are by no means peculiar to chivalry; but would alſo be found in the moſt perfect democracy. If the republic of Lacedemon be held an exception to the poſſeſſion of property in the manner referred to, that ſtate had many diſtinctions of rank, eſpecially the moſt odious, thoſe of tyrant and ſlave, in unrivalled perfection.

In free ſtates, there are ſtill other diſtinctions which neceſſarily ariſe from the ſeparation of the powers of government into the political or legiſlative; the judicial, or that of adminiſtering the laws; and the executive, or that of enforcing the decrees of the legiſlative, and the deciſions of the judicial power.

Thoſe ſeveral powers of government, are not indeed equally capable of being exerciſed by the people over themſelves, eſpecially the executive power. They may exerciſe legiſlative power, through the medium of a repreſentative body, which, however muſt be ſo far limited in point of number, as diſtinctly to hear thoſe who addreſs it, otherwiſe it would be a tumult, rather than a deliberative aſſembly.

The judicial power may be exerciſed in a very ample manner by the people. By means of juries, they may judge and decide without appeal on the lives of their fellow-citizens. The ſupreme criminal judicature, thus ſtated as retained by the people in their own hands, together with the concluding obſervations which follow, is here brought into view, on account of its connection with the foregoing. It is indeed no diſtinction of rank; but a branch of ſovereignty not leſs important than that of legiſlation. It may be added, that the executive power could not be adminiſtered by means of juries. Were juries to have uncontrollable power of executing or ſuſpending ſentences of condemnation, they would, in numberleſs caſes, be intereſted in delaying, evading, or perverting juſtice, from affection, hopes of gain, fear, and other cauſes.

While diſtinctions of rank are inſeparable from ſociety, there is an equality alſo with which its happineſs and perfection are inſeparably connected. This equality conſiſts in the common right by which each individual is equally entitled to acquire, poſſeſs, and enjoy, in the manner moſt agreeable to himſelf, whatever he can obtain, without violating the very ſame rights in others, which he himſelf poſſeſſes. This maxim is illuſtrated by the laws of free and well regulated ſtates, where the life, reputation, liberty, and property of the loweſt ſervant are equally ſacred with thoſe of his maſters: where all obſtacles of a political nature are removed, and every barrier open that may lead to a preferable ſituation.

The great end of government is to promote the health of the body politic: but among mankind, the members which compoſe this body, there is not only weakneſs, fallibility, or liableneſs to error through miſtake; there is a depravity, ſo malignant, as too often to require that the parts moſt infected by it be cut off. As this poiſon cannot be totally expelled, approved ſkill, experience, and care, are neceſſary, in order to weaken and counteract its influence. Virtue, eſpecially a ſenſe of juſtice, inſpiring the

the community to adopt equal laws, is here the only antidote of ſufficient efficacy. The celebrated political communities of antiquity, called, by a bold figure of ſpeech, *free ſtates*, were but penuriouſly ſupplied with this antidote. Hence was each of them divided againſt itſelf, the depravity of the ſtronger party trampling on the weaker, claſſing them with brute animals, and other common objects of property; although they were innocent, endowed with reaſon, and with all the exquiſite perfections, and ineffable ſenſibilities which accompany it.

Beſide the internal diſorders incident to ſociety, it is liable alſo to be aſſailed by ſtorms from without; nor will it ever be exempted from this danger, till injuſtice, envy, covetouſneſs, and diſhoneſt ambition forſake the earth.

To frame a new ſyſtem of government, capable at once of averting thoſe evils, and procuring the utmoſt attainable good; of ſecuring the ſafety and liberty of individuals againſt foreign hoſtility, and eluding the verſatile manœuvres of unprincipled ambition: to frame ſuch a ſyſtem of government, is not a taſte befitting the naked and untutored eye which views the political economy of ſociety, as it views the ſtars, ſatisfied with the clearneſs of the proſpect, yet unconſcious of the diſtance, magnitude, and complicated evolutions, which the aid of the teleſcope, and a due acquaintance with aſtronomy would diſcloſe.

In a government completely popular, there is not any permanent principle of ſtability, except, perhaps, the ſyſtem of municipal law, and the hereditary ſucceſſion of property; which laſt ſeems ſomewhat diſſonant from the ſpirit of the conſtitution. The ſupreme, as well as all the inferior powers of the ſtate, is elective. It is nominally lodged in the great national council: but all its operations are accelerated, obſtructed, or repelled, according to the ſuperior conſequence or addreſs of the adverſe factions, which are each of them eager and indefatigable to monopolize, for the public good, the entire direction of the community.

The weight of ſuch a ſtate in the ſcale of nations is greatly diminiſhed by the inſtability and fluctuation which cheriſhes internal ſtruggles, and courts the interference of foreign powers.

Diſtinctions of rank, theoretically diſclaimed, yet inſeparably united to wealth, and to different portions or gradations of power, are purſued with that ſtrong avidity which reſults from the united love of gain, authority, and pre-eminence. A government entirely popular ſeems thus but a prepoſterous expedient for the final abolition of rank. If it do not increaſe, it is far from diminiſhing the number of individuals ſo diſtinguiſhed. It only concentrates all diſtinction in riches, and in official power. Thence ariſe two ſituations, in themſelves reſpectable, but here in an eſpecial manner open to the ungenerous and grovelling, who, in ſuch ſituations, never forget to diſplay the proverbial inſolence of office, and the equally deſpicable pride of ſordid wealth.

Some men are born with intuitive ſuperiority to this meanneſs: ſome eſcape it, alſo, in conſequence of a proper education. On the other hand, it is equally certain, that adventitious diſtinctions, in common with thoſe ariſing from office or wealth, are liable to be abuſed; and may incur contempt, where the poſſeſſors are unreſtrained by a ſenſe of propriety, and deſtitute of inherent worth.

But if the diſtinctions inſeparable from ſociety are, by means of ſome political arrangement, centered in riches, and in official power, without any regulation to counteract the effects moſt likely to follow, the ſyſtem of manners reſulting from the pride of wealth, and from a mercenary thirſt of gain, will be apt to inſpire grovelling ſervility of character, with a con-

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tempt for every ſpecies of excellence unconnected with the poſſeſſion of money.

The abuſes which may be aſcribed to adventitious honour, are, perhaps moſt effectually obviated or checked, where the diſtinctions of ſociety are placed on a liberal ſcale, correſponding to that variety of eminence, which flouriſhes under the moſt improved political economy. All have the rank of freemen, without being precluded from any other to which either their exertion or talents may entitle them. The laws interpoſe no barrier between the people at large, and that claſs which chivalry ſtyled noble; nor do they afford any advantage to the latter, who are neceſſarily diſtinguiſhed by thoſe circumſtances only, or chiefly, that are inſeparable from the poſſeſſion of property, or by a certain cultivation, equally unconnected with legal privilege.

In a comparative view of political inſtitution, that has a claim to be preferred, where the power and honours which diſtinguiſh the higher ranks are a defence and ornament to the community, without either oppreſſing, degrading, or being unattainable by ſuch as belong to the inferior orders; where idleneſs is diſcountenanced, violence reſtrained, and encouragement extended to every individual, to exert, for his own and the general good, whatever talents or capacity he may poſſeſs. But if the operation of political cauſes counteract thoſe purpoſes, or the ſupreme power fail to impoſe an effectual reſtraint on the unjuſt and cruel propenſities of human nature, or to encourage to the utmoſt every laudable exertion, it ſo far fails ſhort, or is ſubverſive of the end at which all government ought to aim. Accordingly, where political power has been employed in avowed and perſevering oppoſition to ſuch principles, as, in the caſe of innocent perſons doomed to ſlavery, eſpecially thoſe who were under the ancient government, this uſe of power is treaſon againſt our common nature.

The ſeveral governments which Polybius deſcribes as adopted in rotation, each with the view to correct the abuſes of the foregoing, were alike hoſtile to thoſe who had been thruſt beyond the verge of ſociety. Neither the feudal, nor the ſucceeding commercial-ſyſtem can be entirely acquitted of the ſame charge; though exalted generoſity of ſentiment muſt be numbered among the characteriſtics of the former; and the latter occupies a period wherein the principles of juriſprudence, and the rights of humanity, are better underſtood, than at any preceding era.

It is at the ſame time to be acknowledged, that mankind are indebted to the *ſpirit of chivalry* in connection with the *feudal ſyſtem*, for the following diſtinguiſhed improvements, in reference to the ſtate of reciprocal hoſtility, ſo frequently their lot. It infuſed into the general current of manners that curteſy, or mutual affability and deference, which added new charms to ſocial life. It rendered the ardent ſenſibilities of youth, ſources of the moſt generous and devoted attachments; while it encouraged their paſſion for renown, to ſeek gratification in arduous enterpriſes, for redreſſing the injuries of the oppreſſed. To the external accompliſhments acquired in courts, and perfected by addreſs in military exerciſes, it ſuperadded a regard to veracity, which contemned every ſpecies of diſſimulation, and made the ſlighteſt promiſe or ground of expectation inviolable; even among enemies. It erected the true baſis of liberty, trial by jury: and by the achievement above the reach of the Greek and Roman philoſophy, it inſpired the nations with thoſe magnanimous principles, which firſt aſſuaged the ferocity, and mitigated the calamities of war.

By T. Brydſon, F. A. S.

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THE HISTORY OF KNOWLEDGE, LEARNING, AND TASTE IN GREAT BRITAIN,

DURING THE REIGN OF KING CHARLES II.

From the New Annual Regiſter for 1797.

THE character of a nation, both with reſpect to morals and literature, is commonly found to vary with that of its rulers. Morals and literature are indeed in many reſpects cloſely connected; and ſcience will not in general flouriſh without cultivation. The writers therefore, in many departments, of what are termed the *belles lettres*, in particular, will aſſume a caſt and character from the manners of the times; and though individuals may caſually ariſe eminent in particular branches of ſcience, yet thoſe which are moſt encouraged will in general occupy moſt the attention of mankind.

We are now arrived at a period which, in character and manners, afforded a remarkable contraſt to that which it immediately ſucceeded. Indeed it is difficult to conceive how, in ſo ſhort a lapſe of time, the genius and purſuits of a people ſhould undergo ſo complete an alteration. That ſeverity of manners, which is a general characteriſtic of ſectaries, and which is inſeparable from a ſtate of adverſity and oppreſſion, ſtill attached to the preſbyterian party after the attainment of power, and the independents and other ſectaries who were the immediate ſupporters of Cromwell, affected, if poſſible, ſtill greater auſterity. Men in office aſſumed a grave and even ſanctified appearance; their favourite ſtudy (if they ſtudied at all) was theology: and their literature was the ſacred writings, and the more enthuſiaſtic deſcription of commentators of the Bible. The imitative paſſion, which is ſtrongly predominant in the inferior claſſes of ſociety, introduced a ſobriety of demeanour even among the loweſt of the vulgar; and their taſte, as far as they aſpired to intellectual improvement, was congenial to that of their ſuperiors. The royaliſts were eſſentially different in almoſt every reſpect. Oppoſition in intereſts commonly produces oppoſition in habits and conduct, ſince men will ſeldom adopt the manners of thoſe by whom they are perſecuted. Charles too, and moſt of his near connections, had ſpent their latter years in the contaminated atmoſphere of the French court; a country where vice and immorality ſeemed congenial to the national character, or, to ſpeak more correctly, perhaps to the character of its deſpotic government.—In ſuch a ſchool, where every ſpecies of moral depravity that can eaſily be imagined was taught and practiſed, this worthleſs monarch was found an apt ſcholar. He is characteriſed by Burnet as 'one who had great vices, but ſcarcely any virtues to correct them;' and the character, though ſevere, is but too well juſtified by his conduct. He was deſtitute of every feeling of humanity, of every principle of honour; and was only reſtrained from the moſt wicked exceſſes of tyranny, by his ſloth, his debauchery, and cowardice. Charles, it is well known was an infidel with reſpect to all religion, natural and revealed; and ſuch a profeſſion only could ſuit the profligate life in which he was engaged. Few, however, have the courage to die in the hopeleſs ſtate in which unbelief involves them; and, at his latter moments, he caught eagerly at that deluſive ſupport which popery extends to the deſpairing ſinner. His example, however, rendered infidelity, and even atheiſm, popular. The Biſhop of Saliſbury ſays, 'that, when he ſaw young men of quality who had ſomething more than ordinary in them, he drew them about him, and ſet himſelf to corrupt them both in religion and morality; in which he proved ſo unhappily ſucceſsful, that he left

tempt for every ſpecies of excellence unconnected with the poſſeſſion of money.

The abuſes which may be aſcribed to adventitious honour, are, perhaps moſt effectually obviated or checked, where the diſtinctions of ſociety are placed on a liberal ſcale, correſponding to that variety of eminence, which flouriſhes under the moſt improved political economy. All have the rank of freemen, without being precluded from any other to which either their exertion or talents may entitle them. The laws interpoſe no barrier between the people at large, and that claſs which chivalry ſtyled noble; nor do they afford any advantage to the latter, who are neceſſarily diſtinguiſhed by thoſe circumſtances only, or chiefly, that are inſeparable from the poſſeſſion of property, or by a certain cultivation, equally unconnected with legal privilege.

In a comparative view of political inſtitution, that has a claim to be preferred, where the power and honours which diſtinguiſh the higher ranks are a defence and ornament to the community, without either oppreſſing, degrading, or being unattainable by ſuch as belong to the inferior orders; where idleneſs is diſcountenanced, violence reſtrained, and encouragement extended to every individual, to exert, for his own and the general good, whatever talents or capacity he may poſſeſs. But if the operation of political cauſes counteract thoſe purpoſes, or the ſupreme power fail to impoſe an effectual reſtraint on the unjuſt and cruel propenſities of human nature, or to encourage to the utmoſt every laudable exertion, it ſo far falls ſhort, or is ſubverſive of the end at which all government ought to aim. Accordingly, where political power has been employed in avowed and perſevering oppoſition to ſuch principles, as, in the caſe of innocent perſons doomed to ſlavery, eſpecially thoſe who were under the ancient government, this uſe of power is treaſon againſt our common nature.

The ſeveral governments which Polybius deſcribes as adopted in rotation, each with the view to correct the abuſes of the foregoing, were alike hoſtile to thoſe who had been thruſt beyond the verge of ſociety. Neither the feudal, nor the ſucceeding commercial-ſyſtem can be entirely acquitted of the ſame charge; though exalted generoſity of ſentiment muſt be numbered among the characteriſtics of the former; and the latter occupies a period wherein the principles of juriſprudence, and the rights of humanity, are better underſtood, than at any preceding era.

It is at the ſame time to be acknowledged, that mankind are indebted to the *ſpirit of chivalry* in connection with the *feudal ſyſtem*, for the following diſtinguiſhed improvements, in reference to the ſtate of reciprocal hoſtility, ſo frequently their lot. It infuſed into the general current of manners that curteſy, or mutual affability and deference, which added new charms to ſocial life. It rendered the ardent ſenſibilities of youth, ſources of the moſt generous and devoted attachments; while it encouraged their paſſion for renown, to ſeek gratification in arduous enterpriſes, for redreſſing the injuries of the oppreſſed. To the external accompliſhments acquired in courts, and perfected by addreſs in military exerciſes, it ſuperadded a regard to veracity, which contemned every ſpecies of diſſimulation, and made the ſlighteſt promiſe or ground of expectation inviolable; even among enemies. It erected the true baſis of liberty, trial by jury: and by the achievement above the reach of the Greek and Roman philoſophy, it inſpired the nations with thoſe magnanimous principles, which firſt aſſuaged the ferocity, and mitigated the calamities of war.

By T. Brydſon, F. A. S.

THE

THE HISTORY OF KNOWLEDGE, LEARNING, AND TASTE IN GREAT BRITAIN,

DURING THE REIGN OF KING CHARLES II.

From the New Annual Regiſter for 1797.

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land much changed at his death from what he found it at his reſtoration.'

That contemptible fabuliſt Hume, who loſes no opportunity of applauding vice, profligacy, and irreligion, wherever they occur, makes it a queſtion whether the nation were much loſers in point of morals in the main by the reſtoration, though he allows 'that licentiouſneſs and debauchery became prevalent in the nation. The pleaſures of the table were much purſued. Love was treated more as an appetite than a paſſion. The one ſex began to abate of the national character of chaſtity without being able to inſpire the other with ſentiment or delicacy.'—Admire, Chriſtian reader the pure ethics of an unbeliever! The deteſtable and profligate Charles is repreſented by the ſame author as one whoſe conduct 'in the duties of *private* life though not free from exception, was in the main *laudable!*'

Under ſuch a monarch ſcience and ſound literature could ſcarcely be expected to flouriſh, and of all departments theology was moſt likely to be left in a neglected ſtate. Under the temperate and judicious guidance of Clarendon, however, the firſt years of Charles paſſed with ſome credit to himſelf, and ſome advantage to the nation. Clarendon, with ſome faults, which were rather thoſe of temper than of principle, was a ſound ſtateſman and an excellent man. He was zealouſly attached to the ancient form of government, and the conſtitutional liberties of the country. 'He reſolved,' ſays Burnet, 'not to ſtretch the prerogative beyond what it was before the wars, and would neither ſet aſide the petition of right, nor endeavour to raiſe the courts of the ſtar-chamber or the high commiſſion again.' A domeſtic incident related by the ſame hiſtorian of this great man, is worthy of attention, ſince it is one of thoſe little accidental occurrences which often ſerve to determine the conduct and character of a man during the whole of his life. It was told by Clarendon himſelf to Lady Ranelagh, and by her to the author from whom it is extracted—When he had attained ſome reputation in the exerciſe of his profeſſion, he went down to Wiltſhire to viſit his aged father, who, in one of their rural excurſions, remarked, 'that men of his profeſſion were too much inclined to ſtretch law and prerogative to the prejudice of the liberty of the ſubject, to recommend and advance themſelves.' —He charged him therefore, if ever he arrived at eminence in his profeſſion, never to ſacrifice the liberties of his country to the will of a prince, or to his own intereſts. He repeated this twice, and immediately fell down in an appoplectic fit, and expired in a few hours.

The moderation of Clarendon's principles extended to moſt of the departments of adminiſtration. At a time when the parliament, in the firſt paroxyſm of loyalty, was diſpoſed to grant almoſt every requeſt, this wiſe and upright miniſter aſked only 1,200,000l. per annum, for the whole ordinary expences of government—a ſum which, at the preſent period, ſeems almoſt incredible for its moderation; and, though he might have obtained two millions, as Burnet remarks, the Chancellor, 'had no mind to carry it farther, or to truſt him (the King) too much.'

In theſe meaſures Clarendon was ſupported by the virtuous Southampton; and it is impoſſible to cite an inſtance more illuſtrative of their love of liberty and their country, than their averſion to war, and their deteſtation of ſtanding armies. After the diſbanding of Monk's army, a plan was in agitation to raiſe a certain force, to be ſo choſen and modelled that the King might depend upon it in every emergency.—To this plan Southampton ſtrongly objected—He ſaid, 'they had felt the effects of a military government, though ſober and

religious, in Cromwells's army: he believed vicious and diſſolute troops would be much worſe; the King would grow fond of them, and they would become inſolent and ungovernable.' He added, that 'he would not look on and ſee the ruin of his country begun, and be ſilent; a white ſtaff ſhould not bribe him.' Clarendon acceded to the ſentiments of Southampton, and the ſcheme was abandoned.

The law as well as the church was chiefly modelled on the reſtoration by the Earl of Clarendon's influence. Burnet allows, that 'he put the juſtice of the nation in very good hands.' He ſeated on the bench ſome of thoſe who had officiated as judges under the commonwealth, particularly the eſtimable and learned Sir Matthew Hale. The clerical appointments alſo were beſtowed with decency at leaſt. Juxton, as the oldeſt prelate, and the friend of the unfortunate Charles, was advanced to the ſee of Canterbury, though from his learning and talents he was little entitled to ſo eminent a ſtation. Sheldon, a man of ſome learning, and dextrous in buſineſs, was firſt made Biſhop of London, and, on the death of Juxton, was advanced to the primacy. Morley, the friend of the amiable and gallant Faulkland, was made Biſhop of Worceſter. Some advances were even made to the moſt eminent of the preſbyterian clergy. Biſhoprics were offered to Calamy, Baxter, and Reynolds. The two former refuſed till the ſcheme of comprehenſion projected by Clarendon could be adopted, and an union of parties effected by adjuſting the diſputed points; but they were both, in the mean time, appointed chaplains to the King; and Reynolds, who was leſs ſcrupulous, accepted of the ſee of Norwich. The ſcheme of comprehenſion above alluded to was much promoted by Southampton, and when Clarendon gave way to the influence of the biſhops and the high church party, who ſtrongly oppoſed it, he was much diſguſted. The King, at Clarendon's inſtance, publiſhed a declaration ſoon after the reſtoration, which, in the opinion of the moſt judicious perſons, would have quieted moſt of the religious animoſities, had it fortunately been adhered to; and, ſoon after, a commiſſion was granted for a conference at the Savoy, to which twelve of each party were nominated, with nine aſſiſtants, to conſider of the union between the church and the preſbyterians. The latter party propoſed Archbiſhop Uſher's reduction as the groundwork of the conference. They then produced a ſeries of objections to the church liturgy. They deſired that no leſſons ſhould be taken out of the apocryphal books; and that the pſalms uſed in the daily prayers ſhould be according to the new tranſlation. To the office of baptiſm they particularly excepted; and to the poſture of kneeling at the lord's ſupper. In concluſion, they produced a new form of prayer drawn up by the celebrated Baxter, who was the principal manager for the non-conformiſt party. To Baxter was oppoſed a clergyman of the name of Gunning, who was afterward ſucceſſively made Biſhop of Chicheſter and of Ely. Of theſe men the Biſhop of Saliſbury remarks, that they 'were the moſt unfit to heal matters, and the fitteſt to widen them that could have been found out.' They were both men of character and of learning, both ſubtle metaphyſicians, and too fond of ſpeculation. Many days were ſpent in the logical contentions of theſe acute diſputants; and the conference at the Savoy was made a matter of amuſement to the town, and not of edification to the church. As therefore the commiſſion was limited to a certain number of days, the whole time elapſed without coming to a ſingle concluſion; and, inſtead of any good, much evil was produced by the aſperity of language, and the violence of the diſputants. The epiſcopal party, as ſoon as the

conference was diſſolved, laboured to render the terms of conformity ſtill more ſevere. The act of uniformity was paſſed, and the diſſidents were in the end ejected from their benefices.

Previous to the paſſing of the act of uniformity, however, ſome alterations were made in the liturgy by the biſhops themſelves. The prayer 'for all ſorts and conditions of men,' and 'the general thankſgiving,' were both added—compoſitions which have never been excelled, and but ſeldom equalled. The piety, the ſpirit, the happy adaptation of language conſpicuous in theſe prayers, muſt ever render them ſubjects of admiration to men of true taſte and ſound principle. They are both aſcribed to Biſhop Sanderſon; though there is a tradition in St John's college, which aſſigns the former to Biſhop Gunning, the opponent of Baxter in the conference. There is, however, a ſimilarity in the ſtyle, which ſeems to mark them both as proceeding from the ſame pen; and, as the thankſgiving was avowedly Sanderſon's, we have a right to conclude that he was the author of both. It may ſeem an extraordinary circumſtance, that ſo neceſſary a part of the liturgy ſhould have been omitted by the preceding compilers; but they ſuppoſed that the pſalms, and hymns, the doxology, the hallelujah, &c. ſufficiently anſwered the purpoſe of thankſgiving. It was, however, obſerved, that theſe were not ſufficiently particular and ſpecific, on that account, this laſt form of thankſgiving was added.

Some alterations of leſs importance were alſo made: a rubric in particular was added from King Edward's liturgy, by the influence of Biſhop Gauden, explaining the reaſons why proteſtants kneeled at receiving the ſacrament, which gave infinite offence to the papiſts, as it contained an expreſs declaration againſt the real preſence. Another alteration was leſs favourably received. In the prayer for the parliament a new epithet was added to the King's title, who was ſtyled 'our moſt *religious* king,' which, when applied to the infamous and profligate Charles, not only cauſed ſcandal but ridicule. The act of uniformity paſſed but by a ſmall majority. It was executed, however, with peculiar ſeverity, a circumſtance which, in a more liberal age, we may be permitted, without ſuſpicion of diſaffection to the church, deeply to deplore. It was generally believed that a few conceſſions would have ſatisfied the more moderate among the preſbyterians, and indeed Baxter was blamed by ſome of his own party for having offered a new liturgy, inſtead of inſiſting on a few of the moſt important points, which might have proved the baſis of a happy union among the proteſtant part of the nation.

The ſudden ejection from their cures of a number of men eminent for their piety and learning, and the haſty replacing of them; the wealth which flowed in upon the church from neglected fines and other ſources; and the indolence and luxury which theſe circumſtances, added to the contagious immorality of the court, brought, as Burnet remarks, ſome degree of ſcandal on the church; but its credit was nobly ſupported by one ſet of divines, who acted upon principles of the pureſt morality, and whoſe learning and piety ſerved to counterbalance the reſpect in which ſome of the non-conformiſt miniſters were held. Of Whitchcot, More, Wilkins, and Cudworth, we have already ſpoken in our preceding volume. The intellectual ſyſtem of the latter was, however, not publiſhed till the preſent reign, viz. in the year 1678. The learned and excellent author perceived (what we of this age peculiarly feel) that the monſtrous and pernicious doctrine of the *fatal neceſſity of human actions* was the groundwork of all the atheiſm and ſpeculative immorality which prevailed. He perceived that by taking away

away all guilt and blame, all punishments and rewards, it not only militated againſt the precepts and principles of Chriſtianity, but againſt all religion, natural and revealed, and againſt the very being of a God. He could not but perceive that it was equally hoſtile to all order in the ſtate, ſince, if that doctrine be true, all laws are nugatory if not tyrannical; and to all virtue in a people, becauſe it breaks down every barrier between guilt and innocence, between juſtice and oppreſſion.

(*To be continued.*)

ORIGIN OF COMUS.

"I HAVE been informed from a manuſcript of Oldys," ſays Mr Warton, "that Lord Bridgewater being appointed Lord Preſident of Wales, entered upon his official reſidence at Ludlow caſtle with great ſolemnity. On this occaſion he was attended by a large concourſe of the neighbouring nobility and gentry. Among the reſt came his children; in particular Lord Brackley, Mr Thomas Egerton, and Lady Alice,

—— to attend their father's ſtate,
And new-inſtructed ſceptre.

They had been on a viſit at a houſe of their relations, the Egerton family in Herefordſhire; and in paſſing through Haywood foreſt were benighted, and the Lady Alice was even loſt for a ſhort time. This accident, which in the end was attended with no bad conſequences, furniſhed the ſubject of a maſk for a Michaelmas feſtivity, and produced Comus.' Lord Bridgewater was appointed Lord Preſident, May 12, 1633. When the perilous adventure in Haywood foreſt happened, if true, cannot now be told. It muſt have been ſoon after. The maſk was acted at Michaelmas 1634.

Sir John Hawkins has alſo obſerved, that this elegant poem is founded on a real ſtory; his account of which, though leſs particular, agrees with that of Oldys. Laws in his Dedication to Lord Brackley, perhaps alludes to the accident in ſtating, that the "poem received its firſt occaſion of birth from himſelf, and others of his noble family." The adventure, however, could not have happened ſoon after the Earl of Bridgewater's appointment to the preſidentſhip; for, it appears by the King's letter, that he was appointed Lord Preſident, June 26, 1631, and by his own letter to the Privy Council, dated October 28, 1633, that he had not been at Ludlow ſince his appointment. Probably the Earl and his family came to Ludlow in the ſummer of 1634, and the accident might have happened not long after their arrival. The expreſſion "his new-inſtructed ſceptre," might otherwiſe ſeem to imply, that their arrival had immediately followed his appointment.

Doctor Newton had obſerved, that Milton formed the plan of Comus very much upon the epiſode of Circe in the Odyſſey. And Dr Johnſon, in his Life of Milton, ſays, that the fiction is derived from Homer's Circe. But a learned and ingenious annotator on the Lives of the Poets is of opinion, notwithſtanding the great biographer's aſſertion, that, "it is rather taken from the Comus of Eugenius Puteanus, in which, under the fiction of a dream, the characters of Comus and his attendants are delineated, and the delight of ſenſualiſts expoſed and reprobated. This little tract was publiſhed at Louvain in 1611, and afterward at Oxford in 1634, the very year in which Milton's Comus was written."

Milton, however, in his imitations of Puteanus, has interwoven many new alluſions and refined ſentiments. Puteanus, it muſt be acknowledged, is often ſprightly as well as poignant. But in his Comus we ſhall ſearch in vain for the delicacy of expreſſion and vigour of fancy which we find in the Comus of Milton. From the in-

cencies alſo in Puteanus the reader will turn away with diſguſt; but to the jollities in Milton he can liſten, "unreproved," becauſe his invitations to pleaſure are ſo general, that they excite no diſtinct images of corrupt enjoyment, and take no dangerous hold on the fancy."

It has been obſerved, that Comus is not * calculated to ſhine in theatric exhibition for thoſe very reaſons which conſtitute its eſſential and ſpecific merit. The Paſtor Fido of Guarini, which alſo ravithes the reader, could not ſucceed upon the ſtage. It is ſufficient, that Comus diſplays the true ſources of poetical delight and moral inſtruction, in its charming imagery, in its original conceptions, in its ſublime diction, in its virtuous ſentiments. Its few inaccuracies weigh but as duſt in the balance againſt its general merit. And, in ſhort (if I may be allowed reſpectfully to differ from the high authority of a preceding note) I am of opinion, that this Paſtoral Drama is both gracefully ſplendid and delightfully inſtructive.

From Todd's Edition, juſt publiſhed.

* See Mr Warton's Preface to his edition of Milton's Poems.

AN EXTRAORDINARY INSTANCE OF SUICIDE.

I HAVE been twice this Chriſtmas, at Strawberry-hill, for a few days, and at each return have been not a little ſurpriſed: the firſt time, at the very unexpected death of my Lord Albemarle, who was taken ill at Paris, going home from ſupper, and expired in a few hours; and laſt week at the far more extraordinary death of ——. He himſelf, with all his judgment in bets, I think would have betted any man in England againſt himſelf for ſelf-murder: yet after having been ſuppoſed the ſharpeſt genius of his time, he, by all that appears, ſhot himſelf on the diſtreſs of his circumſtances; an appoplectic diſpoſition I believe concurring, either to lower his ſpirits, or to alarm them. Ever ſince Miſs —— lived with him, either from liking her himſelf, as ſome think, or to tempt her to marry his Lilliputian figure, he has ſquandered vaſt ſums at ——, and in living. He left twelve hundred a year by Lord Albemarle's death, and four by Lord Gage's, the ſame day. He aſked immediately for the government of Virginia, or the Fox-hounds and preſſed for an anſwer with an eagerneſs that ſurpriſed the Duke of N. who never had a notion of pinning down the relief of his own or any man's wants to a day. Yet that ſeems to have been the caſe of ——, who determined to throw the die of life or death, Tueſday was ſe'nnight, on the anſwer he was to receive from court; which did not prove favourable. He conſulted indirectly, ſeveral people on the eaſieſt method of finiſhing life; and ſeems to have thought that he been too explicit; for he invited company to dinner for the day of his death, and ordered a ſupper at White's; where he ſupped too the night before. He played at whiſt till one in the morning; it was new year's morning: Lord Robert Bertie drank to him a happy new year; he clapped his hand ſtrangely to his eyes! In the morning he had a lawyer, and three witneſſes, and executed his will, which he made them read twice over, paragraph by paragraph: and then aſking the lawyer, if that *will* would ſtand good, though a man were to ſhoot himſelf? and being aſſured that it would: he ſaid, 'Pray ſtay while I ſlep into the next room,'— went into the next room, and ſhot himſelf. He clapped the piſtol ſo cloſe to his head, that they heard no report. The houſekeeper heard him fall, and, thinking he had a fit, ran up with drops, and found his ſkull and brains ſhot about the room!— You will be charmed with the friendſhip and generoſity of Sir ——. ——

a little time ſince opened his circumſtances to him. Sir —— ſaid, 'If it will be of any ſervice to you, you ſhall ſee what I have done for you:' pulled out his will, and read it, where he had left him a vaſt legacy. The beauty of this action is heightened by Sir ——'s life not being worth a year's purchaſe. I own I feel for the diſtreſs this man muſt have felt, before he decided on ſo deſperate an action. I knew him but little; but he was good-natured, and agreeable enough, and had the moſt compendious underſtanding I ever knew. He had affected a fineſſe in money matters beyond what he deſerved, and aimed at reducing even natural affections to a kind of calculations like Demoivre's. He was aſked, ſoon after his daughter's marriage, if ſhe was with child. He replied, 'Upon my word, I don't know: I have not bet upon it.' This, and poor ——'s ſelf-murder, have brought to light another, which, happening in France, had been ſunk; I can tell you that the ancient and worſhipful company of lovers are under a great dilemma, upon a huſband and a gameſter killing themſelves; I don't know whether they will not apply to parliament for an excluſive charter for ſelf murder.

On the occaſion of ——'s ſtory, I heard another more extraordinary. If a man inſures his life, this killing himſelf vacates the bargain. This (as in England almoſt every thing begets a contradiction) has produced an office for inſuring in ſpite of ſelf-murder: but not beyond three hundred pounds. I ſuppoſe voluntary deaths were not then the ton of people in higher life. A man went and inſured his life, ſecuring this privilege of a *free dying*, Engliſhman. He carried the inſurers to dine at a tavern, where they met ſeveral other perſons. After dinner he ſaid to the life and-death brokers, 'Gentlemen, it is fit that you ſhould be acquainted with the company: theſe honeſt men are tradeſmen, to whom I was in debt, without any means of paying, but by your aſſiſtance, and now I am your humble ſervant!' He pulled out a piſtol and ſhot himſelf. Did you ever hear of ſuch a mixture of honeſty and knavery?

From the late Lord Orford's works.

VARIOUS CAUSES OF POVERTY.

THE poor are too apt to fancy that their humble ſituations proceed from the oppreſſions of the rich, and this idea is encouraged by artful and deſigning people, who are continually on the watch for ſome of thoſe contingencies, which never fail to preſent themſelves in time of war, or after a very long peace. But were the poor to ſpend no more than is neceſſary to ſupport them in corporal health, the wages which they get for their ſervices, and the money they earn from their trades, are in general amply ſufficient to effect this, and to lay by in a very few years what is neceſſary to put them into ſuch a line, as would lead them to opulence: for when we recollect that one penny a day amounts to 1l. 1os. 5d. a year, we muſt be ſenſible there are very few incapable of ſparing ſomething from their earnings. It muſt, however, be confeſſed, that taking the preſent ſtate of the poor into conſideration, the reſolution neceſſary for accumulating ſuch a ſaving is very great, and it will never be accompliſhed except promoted by a previous tuition. To this end the tontine ſcheme was put in practice, and it is certainly the moſt laudable and effectual inſtitution of the kind that ever was thought of;—it is one other addition to promote the ability of riſing to pecuniary independence, for there are many people who having once acquired a trifle before hand, would be induced to go on, that now deſignedly ſpend every thing they get poſſeſſion of. Tontines, however, are yet in their infancy, and

and at present exist only in some great cities: a caution is therefore necessary, not to suffer one to fail from mismanagement or fraud; for should that ever be the case, there will be a general flop from one end of the kingdom to the other. This irresolution to save, and not the want of sufficient wages, is a radical cause of a continuance in poverty; else whence is it, that in London at least, so many of the labouring poor can afford to be absent from their work on Monday? It is a saying, that 'Saint Monday is the greatest vagabond in the kalendar.' The usual wages of a porter, and a common labourer, are twelve shillings a week*, and there are many who are, in a general way only, sober and industrious, that contrive to support a wife and two children decently and in health by their own wages, and by some trifle besides, which is earned by the former. A man, therefore, possessed of a trade, and who gets a guinea, or twenty-five shillings a week, can blame himself only if he does not rise above dependence.

Another cause is buying unprofitable food, and the mismanagement of it afterward; tea, with bread and butter, is a very improper breakfast for any person who works hard. So are cheese and porter; the former of these has very little nourishment, and the latter is too costly.

Every thing that will contribute to save only one penny a day in a poor family, should be considered as an object of importance; and a more easy means is not to be found, than baking a sort of bread which is as wholesome as any other, and yet cheaper. This is a very common practice in America; but experience has proved, that here, the pipsey under the hedge, or the beggar in the streets, would scorn it.

Feeding pigs, cats, dogs, and birds, assist in keeping people poor; the first are intended for profit; but as the poor never calculate their expences, so they never know the real worth of any thing. A pig, if it runs about, consumes time in looking for it; it frequently gets into the pound; it eats up the scraps of the family where there should be none; it occasions the boiling of victuals simply for the sake of the pot-liquor, and that is the mode of dressing food, which retains in it the least nourishment of any other; then this stunted, half-starved creature must be fatted, and will, in the end, cost more than three times the value of the meat. As to the other animals, people never pretend to keep them for profit; what they consume is evidently a total loss.

The habit which poor people are in of giving their children money to buy fruit and tarts, if frequent, becomes a bad practice; if now and then only, and for ripe fruit, it is of service to them: at any rate it assists to encrease expences, and should, therefore, be avoided, where industry and management are to be the steps to fortune. For there can be no doubt, that, in Great Britain at least, any one possessed of mental and bodily health, has the ability, by saving and preseverance, to arrive at a comfortable independence from the lowest indigence. Numberless are the instances which might be brought in proof. We have seen the eldest son of a peer, who possessed every advantage which a good education, a fine person, and elegant manners could give him, by a course of the utmost profligacy and extravagance, in want of bread to eat, and driven at length to the necessity of enlisting as a common soldier. And we have also known a man, whose origin was so low as to be an errand-boy, become Governor of the bank of England, Alderman, Sheriff, Lord Mayor, and Member of Parliament for the city of London.

By M. Sabatier.

* Since the commencement of the war, a porter's wages have risen to fourteen shillings a week.

ON THE TENDENCY OF OUR PRESENT LAWS,

TO PROMOTE, IN PLACE OF PREVENTING, CRIMES.

1. BY diſproportioned puniſhments.

2. By fixing the ſame puniſhment to two different crimes, the greater of which has a tendency to conceal the leſſer.

3. By admitting of impunity; as in an unconditional pardon, or an exchange from death to tranſportation, which is often, to a man rendered deſperate by diſtreſs, an enviable ſituation.

4. By confinement before trial in idleneſs, and bad company; the former tending to harden profligacy, the latter to an eſcape.

5. The expence of proſecution.

6. By allowing legal paſſages for eſcape.

7. By proſcribing a man's character by viſible diſmemberment, public whipping, pillory, or the ſtocks.

8. By legalizing, or rather by not prohibiting pawnbrokers, and other receivers.

9. By want of attention to the morals of the poor.

10. By permitting profligate characters to fill the religious miniſtry.

11. By non-reſidence, and neglect of incumbents.

12. By not affording to a poor or diſtreſſed man the means of earning a living.

13. By falſe economy in detecting crimes.

14. By permitting mendicity.

15. By ſuffering ſeditioniſts to eſcape puniſhment.

16. By allowing temptations to lie in the way of poor people, as game and wood, in foreſts.

17. By ſuffering the eſcape of fraudulent, extravagant, and ſpeculative bankrupts.

18. By the ſale of ſpirituous liquors, and lottery tickets.

19. By laying high duties on foreign commodities; and thereby encouraging ſmuggling.

By M. Sabatier.

DESCRIPTION OF THE GHAUT MOUNTAINS.

FROM the word *Ghaut* the whole chain derives its name. They give entrance into the lofty, fertile, and populous plains of boundleſs view, which they ſupport in the manner as buttreſſes do a terrace, formed on an immenſe ſcale. Theſe run not remote from the ſea from Surat to Cape Comorin, at ſome places ſeventy miles diſtant, but generally forty, and in one place they advance to within ſix. They have leſſer hills at their baſes, clothed with foreſts, particularly of the valuable *teck*. The plains are bleſt, from their ſituation, with a cool and healthy air. From the ſides of the mountains precipitate magnificent cataracts, forming torrents, the means of facilitating the conveyance of the timber, and giving a thouſand picturesque ſcenes amid the foreſt.

The Ghauts are diſtinguiſhed into the weſtern and eaſtern. The firſt extend, as I have deſcribed, uninterruptedly from Surat to the paſs of Palichaudchery, where, near Coimbetoire, they ſuddenly turn, deeply undulating to the north. Then, at the paſs of Gujethetty, wind north and north-eaſterly as high as Amboor, and Mugglee, the laſt about 80 miles due weſt of Madras. From hence they are not, by reaſon of the numbers of branches, ſufficiently marked on the maps: they ſeem to take a northerly courſe, to comprehend Aurungabad, to croſs the Taptee, and continue weſterly, at irregular diſtances from the river, till they arrive at a certain ſpace from Surat.

The whole chain, eſpecially in the Concan, ſeems a connected wall, inacceſſible to the ſummit, unleſs by paths worked by the hand of man,

and is not to be aſcended even by a ſingle traveller, without the fatiguing labour of many hours; horrible precipices, roaring cataracts, and frequent reverberating echoes, terrify the paſſenger on each ſide; often violent guſts ariſe, and hurry men and cattle into the black immeaſurable abyſs. Having attained the ſummit, the trouble is repaid by the magnificent proſpect to the weſt, of the far ſubjacent country, broken into hills, and cloathed with beautiful vegetation; the coaſt, the iſlands, and the immenſity of ocean.

The Indian Appenines mark with preciſion the limits of the winter and ſummer, or rather the wet and dry ſeaſons in India. They extend thirteen degrees of latitude from Surat to Cape Comorin. They arreſt the great body of clouds in their paſſage, and, according to the monſoons, or periodical winds from the north-eaſt or ſouth-weſt, give, alternately, a dry ſeaſon to one ſide, and a wet one to the other; ſome clouds do paſs over, and give a rainy ſeaſon, but at a very conſiderable diſtance to the leeward; being too high and too light to condenſe and fall in rain, within a ſmall diſtance of this great range.

From Pennant's View of Hindooſtan.

REMAKABLE PARTICULARS OF THE ESCAPE OF M. BERTRAND DE MOLEVILLE.

Formerly Miniſter of State, in France, from the Maſſacres of 1792.

Related by himſelf.

ON the 10th of Auguſt, about nine o'clock, my landlord (in whoſe houſe M. Bertrand had ſecreted himſelf) entered in the utmoſt conſternation; he came directly from the aſſembly of the ſection, after having heard one of the members announce as a piece of good news, that the municipality had received information of the place where the miniſter Bertrand was concealed. The terrified imagination of my landlord, repreſented his houſe filled with commiſſaries and national guards, the miniſter diſcovered, and I carried to priſon along with the perſon who had harboured him; his wife and daughter inſulted; his little library pillaged; and, as the climax of misfortunes, his high reputation for *civiſm* ruined for ever. He aſſured me, that I had not a moment to loſe: that I ought inſtantly to make my eſcape, and ſeek refuge elſewhere. I endeavoured in vain to make him eaſy, by convincing him that if the municipality really knew where I was concealed, they would begin by arreſting me; that they could not give a ſtronger proof of their ignorance of my retreat, than by thus oſtentatiouſly declaring they were informed of it; and I concluded by obſerving, that the news which ſo greatly alarmed him, was certainly in conſequence of a miſtake, which my brother's arreſt had given riſe to. All this, however, was urged in vain; I could only prevail upon him to go himſelf in ſearch of other lodgings, while I was employed in packing up my clothes, &c. It was agreed that I ſhould be introduced into the new lodgings as his patient (he was a medical man) and I allowed him to make what terms he thought proper for board and lodging.

In the mean time the committee of reſearch, as it was called, employed every poſſible means of diſcovering the place of my retreat. They were ſome hours in Paris; and Manuel, *procureur de commune*, engaged to find me in four days. I was informed of this by my landlord, who had heard it repeated in his ſection, and was greatly alarmed: but I at laſt convinced him that Manuel had ſpoken at random, without any indication of the place of concealment; and that his boaſt deſerved no attention. We remained, for two days, tolerably quiet; but on the evening of the third, all the ſections received an order, about eight o'clock, for a general ſearch to begin at midnight, in every houſe in their quarter, upon pretence of looking for arms; and all that ſhould be found were to be ſeized, and tranſmitted to the armies. The true motive of this meaſure was to diſcover and apprehend all thoſe who, ſince the 10th of Auguſt, had been obliged to conceal

conceal themselves, in order to escape death; and the greatest part of those who found means to save themselves, on that dreadful day, were now discovered, thrown into prison, and reserved for the still more dreadful slaughter of the ensuing September.

I never was exposed to greater danger than on the night the commissaries were ordered to search the houses; for consternation and despair had almost turned my poor host's head, and it was impossible for me to make him listen to reason.

'Hide yourself, hide yourself,' said he, on entering my apartment, with a most ghastly look.

'What is the matter, doctor?' said I, without any apparent discomposure.

'The commissaries,' said he, wringing his hands, 'the commissaries, sir. They are in the street. They are coming. Oh! hide yourself—hide yourself.'

'Well, and so I shall hide myself, I promise you: but I beg to know what new reason there is. Compose yourself, and tell me who these commissaries are.'

'The commissaries of the section, sir, who have orders to search every house from the cellar to the garret.'

'And on what account is this search?'

'The reason publicly given is to search for concealed fire-arms; but I came directly here from the committee, where I was informed that the commissaries have received secret orders to apprehend all suspected persons.'

'If this be all, doctor, make yourself perfectly easy, for you have no fire-arms in your house, and I have not the air of a suspected person.'

'Don't you perceive, sir, that it is a device of that rascal Manuel's, and that he has very probably sent a particular description of your person to all the sections?'

'That is impossible; for he never saw me, and can only give so vague a description from report, that ten thousand people of my size will answer to the same description.'

'But what does that signify, if it answers to you? I tell you, that you have not a moment to lose. Hide yourself—take my word.'

'Listen to me, my dear doctor; as I am the person most interested, and am not a downright idiot, I have certainly a right to examine a little the measure you desire me to adopt. Grant me a moment's attention, we have time to spare. The commissaries, you say, have but just entered the street, they have therefore at least sixty houses to search, from the cellar to the garret, before they come here. Besides, there are many lodgings in this house, your's is the most distant; and there is no reason to believe it will be the first examined; so that, even upon the supposition that the commissaries were in the court, we should have time to take breath.'

'Well then, tell me what is to be done; but make haste.'

'Why, I must either hide myself, or try to make my escape.'

'But you cannot make your escape, sir, for there are guards at each end of the street. Besides, there are patroles to stop every person who comes out of any of the houses.'

'If that be the case, there is no choice left but to conceal myself; and that is the easiest thing in the world, for I have only to undress myself, and go to bed.'

'What do you mean? Are you in your senses? The commissaries will find you immediately.'

'Well, and when they do find me, consider that I am not in my own section, and therefore shall not be known to any of them; and if I seem quietly asleep in bed, I shall have a much less suspicious appearance than if I am found under it, or penned up in some place, or lurking in the cellar.'

'But they will require of me, who you are.'

'Very well: you have only to say that I am a lawyer of Limousin or Auvergne, who has been under your care during an illness, which has terminated in an abscess in my thigh, which is not quite cured.'

'What name shall I call you by?'

'Whatever name you please. But you may even be dispensed from naming me, because surgeons are expected to keep the names of certain patients secret.'

'Well, after all, I own that I have not sufficient assurance to act this part,' said he, 'they will soon see that I am not telling the truth.'

'That is exactly my great fear,

doctor. I dread your pale, terrified look much more than I do the commiſſaries; for they will inſtantly read in your countenance that you have ſome great offender concealed in your houſe.'

'Oh!' don't fear,' ſaid he, tremblingly.

'I ſhould be much eaſier, I confeſs,' anſwered I, 'if you would be prevailed upon to paſs the night at the committee. It will appear very natural, that in times like theſe, your zeal ſhould lead you to aſſiſt your colleagues. This cannot fail to pleaſe them; and your wife and I, take my word for it, will extricate ourſelves to a miracle. You may, if you pleaſe, lock me up in my chamber, and carry the key with you. Your wife has only to ſay to the commiſſaries, that it is your ſurgery, and contains no arms except a few lancets and hiſtories; and that you have the key in your pocket. You cannot fear that theſe gentlemen will have the brutality to break open the door of a colleague, whoſe patriotiſm is ſo well known.'

'How, ſir? Would you have me leave my wife and daughter here alone, to receive the commiſſaries and the national guard, while they ſearched my houſe? Aſſuredly, ſir, I ſhall do no ſuch thing.'

'Why not?' anſwered I, 'Where is the danger? But even upon the ſuppoſition that there was cauſe for apprehenſion, what protection could they expect from a man in ſuch terror as you are in at preſent?'

'I am not ſo frightened as you think. Any ſmall fear I had, begins to go off. I ſhall be quite at my eaſe when I have got you well hid. I am as much intereſted in this as you are; for if you are diſcovered in my houſe, my caſe will be as bad as your own. But truſt to me, and you ſhall ſee that I have thought upon a plan which would conceal you from the devil himſelf.'

I endeavoured, in vain, to diſſuade him from his ſcheme, but he adhered to it with invincible obſtinacy; and at laſt refuſing to liſten to me, threw my mattreſs and bed-clothes into the middle of the floor, to prepare the wonderful place of concealment that he had conceived for me. In the room there was an alcove, containing a bed, which uſually reached to the wall: but for the preſent purpoſe, drawing the bed forward, he left a vacant ſpace between the back edge of the bed and the wall of the alcove. He fixed a board from the bedſtead to the wall, and covered the board with a blanket only; whereas on the bedſtead he placed two thick mattraſſes, no broader than it; above thoſe a large mattraſs, which reached to the wall of the alcove, and conſequently covered the ſpace in which I was to lie hid. I yielded to his perſuaſions, and took my place accordingly. He arranged the curtains and bed-clothes ſo as to conceal the ſpace I occupied. When he had finiſhed his work, he was ſo delighted with the ingenuity of his device, that he quite forgot his fears.

'Who could ſuſpect,' ſaid he, 'that there is a man concealed here? Nobody can take ſuch a notion into his head. Beſides, when I ſhall lie down, who the devil will dare to come near you? If the commiſſary pretends to approach within an arm's length of my bed, I ſhall ſoon let him know that I am a commiſſary as well as he. I would break his head for him without ceremony. Well, how do you find yourſelf?'

'Very ill, indeed. I am almoſt ſtifled?'

'Oh! that is nothing; only a troubleſome quarter of an hour to paſs. But you will ſleep the better to-morrow night. Don't move, or you will put all out of order. I am coming to bed directly, and will endeavour to give you a little air.'

'Make haſte then,' ſaid I; 'for this is inſupportable.'

He accordingly undreſſed, and came to bed. I ſoon found my ſufferings greatly augmented by the heat and weight of his body, which preſſing the mattraſſes, rendered the narrow ſpace in which I was ſqueezed ſtill more oppreſſive. It was then about one o'clock in the morning. I ſupported my ſituation upwards of an hour. At laſt, having loſt all patience, I ſtarted up, and waked my bed-fellow, who had juſt begun to ſleep.

'This is no longer to be endured,' ſaid I. 'If I muſt die, I prefer the guillotine to being ſmothered; and am

determined to ſit up till I hear the commiſſaries are actually in the houſe.'

My landlord earneſtly entreated me to have patience, declaring that he heard a noiſe in the ſtreet, and that the commiſſaries were perhaps already at the door.

'Then put on your night-gown,' ſaid I, impatiently, 'and go, liſten; and if it really be the commiſſaries, return, and let me know.'

Luckily, my advice did not appear unreaſonable. He made no objection to follow it. He was no ſooner gone, than I got out of the hole in which I had been hid, and cannot expreſs the relief I felt in my releaſe from that ſtate of ſuffocation. I had not long enjoyed the comfort of breathing freely, when I heard burſts of laughter on the ſtairs, and a very noiſy converſation, in which I recognized my landlord's voice. He ſoon after entered my room laughing, and in the fulneſs of his heart, continuing to talk as if he had been ſtill in company with the other lodgers, although he had parted with them at the bottom of the ſtairs. His joyous and triumphant air was a clear proof that there was nothing to fear.

'How now,' ſaid he, 'you have got up: you know then what has paſſed?'

'No, but when I heard you laugh, I gueſſed you brought me good news.'

'That I have, take my word for it.'

'You have come to a good underſtanding with the commiſſaries, and prevented them from ſearching your houſe.'

'Yes,' anſwered he, 'if ſeveral pretty hard blows are marks of a good underſtanding.'

'How?' ſaid I: Did you give the commiſſaries hard blows?'

'No, not one; but all the neighbourhood are in purſuit of them, and they have been driven out of the ſtreet. It is the higheſt farce I ever beheld. Only conceive what theſe pretty commiſſaries are. Do not imagine they are members of the committee. No ſuch thing—two of the greateſt blackguards of the ſection, who offered, of themſelves, to viſit the houſes, and were accepted of. It is ſhameful. They had viſited all the houſes of the ſtreet excepting two; and being in that of the baker next door, his wife, who is young, and a very pretty woman, was in bed, when behold, thoſe impudent fellows, on pretence of ſearching for arms, behaved in ſuch a rude manner, that ſhe ſhrieked repeatedly. Her huſband opened the window, and called for aſſiſtance. In an inſtant more than an hundred perſons were in the houſe, and drove out the commiſſaries, after giving them a complete drubbing. When I came in, the people were chaſing them with ſticks and ſtones. They ſcampered as if the devil had been at their heels. I'll be bound for it they will not come to this ſtreet in a hurry. The blades were in luck not to enter my houſe. They would not have got out of it with all their bones whole.'

After much of this ridiculous vapouring, which only ſerved to confirm my opinion of the poor man's exceſſive cowardiſe, he begged I would take a little repoſe. I endeavoured to follow his advice, after returning thanks to Divine Providence for my preſervation through the dangers of a night ſo fatal to many.

It is remarkable, that I happened to be concealed in the only ſtreet of Paris, in which the commiſſaries met with oppoſition; and in one of the two only houſes of that ſtreet which had not been ſearched.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

A Voyage Round the World, in the Years 1785, 1786, 1787, and 1788, by J. F. G. De la Peroufe; publiſhed conformably to the Decree of the National Aſſembly of the 22d of April 1791, and Edited by M. L. A. Millet Mureau.

This Work, ſo long expected by Navigators and Philoſophers, has, at length, been publiſhed in France. The fate of M. La Peroufe cannot but be recent in the memory of our Readers. At the concluſion of the laſt War, the French Court determined to fit out an Expedition, to forward and perfect the Diſcoveries ſo ſucceſsfully begun by Captain Cook, and ſelected La Peroufe to the

the Chief Command. Their choice was in all reſpects highly judicious, as few men, perhaps, were ever better qualified by Study and Skill to ſucceed our celebrated Navigator. Two Frigates were accordingly fitted out at Breſt in 1785, the La Bouſſole, commanded by the Sieur de La Peroufe, and L'Aſtrolabe, by the Sieur de Langle, Captains of the Navy. They ſailed from Breſt, on the firſt of Auguſt that Year, and after performing their Voyage with various ſucceſs and adventures, in the courſe of which La Peroufe and his Officers tranſmitted Accounts to their Government and Friends, both Ships were unfortunately loſt ſome time in 1788, as is ſuppoſed, but the Particulars of their fate are to this day unknown. From the Materials tranſmitted, this Publication has been compiled by an Editor, apparently fully equal to the taſk, and has been given to the Public in a ſplendid and expenſive Form.—It is our intention to give an Outline of this Voyage, with Extracts of the moſt novel and intereſting Deſcriptions of the Manners, Cuſtoms, &c. of the Places viſited.

THE expedition ſailed from Breſt on the firſt of Auguſt 1785. Nothing intereſting occurred during the run to Madeira, where they anchored on the 13th. The run thence to Teneriffe took only three days. They anchored there on the 19th, and ſailed again on the 30th, with a freſh breeze from the north-north eaſt. On the 29th of September, they croſſed the equator in the 18th degree of weſt longitude. On the 18th of October, they were off the iſland of Trinidada. On the 6th of November, they anchored between St Catherine's and the main; the middle of the iſland of Alveredo bearing north-eaſt, the iſlands of Flamands, ſouth by eaſt, and the iſland of Gal, north. In all this navigation of ninety-ſix days, they had not a ſingle perſon dead on board. The iſland of St Catharine's is particularly deſcribed. Here they were treated with great hoſpitality, and found proviſions cheap and in great plenty.

M. Peroufe informs us that he doubled Cape Horn with much greater eaſe than he had dared to hope, and was then convinced that this navigation is like that of all high latitudes. 'The difficulties we expect to meet with, are the effect of an ancient prejudice, which in time will be laid aſide, and which the reading of Admiral Anſon's voyage has not a little contributed to keep alive in the minds of ſeamen.'

We ſhall now proceed to the intereſting deſcription of the bay and town of Conception in the country of Chili.

The bay of Conception is one of the moſt commodious harbours to be found in any part of the world. The water is ſmooth, and there is ſcarcely any current, although the tide riſes ſix feet three inches, the flood being at its height, at the full and change of the moon, at 45 minutes after one o'clock. The bay is ſheltered from all winds but the north, which in theſe climates only blows during the winter; that is, from the end of May to October, which is alſo the rainy ſeaſon. The weather is conſtantly wet while that monſoon laſts; for the name of monſoons may, with propriety, be given to thoſe ſteady gales, that are followed by ſoutherly winds, which blow all the reſt of the year, and which are accompanied by the moſt delightful weather. The only anchorage ſheltered from the north-eaſt wind that prevails during the winter, is off the village of Talcaguana, on the ſouth-eaſt ſhore, which is now the only Spaniſh ſettlement in the bay, the old city of Conception having, as I have already ſaid, been deſtroyed by an earthquake in 1751. It was ſituated at the end of the river St. Peter, to the eaſtward of Talcaguana; and its ruins are ſtill to be ſeen. They will not exiſt ſo long as thoſe of Palmyra have done, all the houſes in the country being either built of mud, or of bricks, dried in the ſun.

The roofs are covered with pantiles the ſame as in ſeveral of the ſouthern provinces of France.

After the deſtruction of this city, which was rather ſwallowed up by the ſea, than overturned by an earthquake, the inhabitants diſperſed, and encamped upon the neighbouring heights. It was not till 1730, that they made choice of a new ſite at a quarter of a league from the river of Biobio, and at three leagues diſtance from old Conception, and the village of Talcaguana. The biſhopric, the cathedral, and the religious

gious houſes were transferred to the new city, which is of great extent, becauſe the houſes are built only one ſtory high, that they may be the better able to reſiſt the earthquakes that happen every year.

The new town contains about ten thouſand inhabitants. It is the reſidence of the biſhop, and of the major-general, who is at the head of the military department. This biſhopric confines on that of San-Jago, the capital of Chili, where the governor-general reſides. It is ſkirted to the eaſtward by the Cordilleras, and extends ſouthward as far as the Straits of Magellan; but its true limits are the river of Biobio, at a quarter of a league's diſtance from the city. All the country ſouth from that river belongs to the Indians, except the iſland of Chiloe, and a ſmall diſtrict round Baldivia. It is improper to give to thoſe people the name of ſubjects to the king of Spain, with whom they are almoſt always at war. The functions of the Spaniſh commandant are conſequently of the greateſt importance. He commands both the regular troops and the militia, which gives him great authority over all the citizens, who, in their civil concerns, are governed by a corregidor. He is beſide charged excluſively with the defence of the country, and obliged to fight, and to negociate inceſſantly. A new adminiſtration is about to ſucceed the old one. It will differ little from that of our colonies, as the authority is to be divided between the commandant and intendant. But it muſt be obſerved that there is no ſupreme court in the Spaniſh colonies, thoſe who are inveſted with the king's authority preſiding alſo as judges in civil cauſes, with a few civilians to aſſiſt them. It is eaſy to perceive that as juſtice is not adminiſtered by judges equal in dignity, the opinion of the preſident muſt almoſt always bias that of the inferior members of the court. The conſequence is, that juſtice is in fact adminiſtered by a ſingle perſon, which muſt be attended with great inconvenience, unleſs we ſuppoſe that perſon void of all prejudice, free from all paſſions, and poſſeſſed of the moſt enlightened underſtanding.

There is not in the univerſe a ſoil more fertile than that of this part of Chili. Corn yields ſixty for one; the vineyards are equally productive; and the plains are covered with innumerable flocks, which multiply beyond all conception, though abandoned entirely to themſelves. All the inhabitants have to do is to ſet up fences round their reſpective poſſeſſions, and to leave the oxen, horſes, mules, and ſheep in the incloſures. The common price of a fat ox is eight dollars; that of a ſheep three quarters of a dollar, but there are no purchaſers; and the natives are accuſtomed every year to kill a great number of oxen, of which the hides and tallow are alone preſerved, and ſent to Lima. Some meat is alſo cured in the Indian manner for the conſumption of the ſmall coaſting veſſels in the South Sea.

There is no particular diſeaſe incident to this country; but one which I dare not name is very common. Thoſe who are fortunate enough to eſcape it, live to a very great age. There are at Conception ſeveral perſons who have completed a century.

Notwithſtanding ſo many advantages, this colony is very far from making the progreſs that might be expected from a ſituation ſo favourable to an increaſe of population; but the influence of the government inceſſantly counteracts that of the climate: prohibitive regulations exiſt from one end of Chili to the other. This kingdom, of which the productions, if carried to their higheſt pitch, would feed the half of Europe; of which the wool would ſuffice for the manufactures of France and England; and of which the cattle, if ſalted down, would produce an immenſe revenue; this kingdom, I ſay, is entirely deſtitute of commerce. Four or five ſmall veſſels arrive every year from Lima, with ſugar, tobacco, and a few articles manufactured in Europe, which the unfortunate inhabitants can only purchaſe at the ſecond or third hand, and after immenſe duties have been paid upon them, firſt at Cadiz, then at Lima, and laſtly on their entering Chili. They can only give in exchange wheat, which is ſo cheap, that the cultivator feels no deſire to cultivate his waſte land, tallow, hides, and a few planks; ſo that the balance of trade is always againſt Chili, which, with its gold *, its mines, and its trif-

* According to the information I re-

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ing articles of barter, is unable to pay for the ſugar, the Paraguay tea, the tobacco, the cloth, the linen, the cambric, and the commoner kinds of hardware, which it conſumes.

From this very brief ſtatement, it is evident that if Spain does not change its ſyſtem; if the liberty of commerce be not authoriſed; if the duties paid upon foreign commodities be not reduced; if the government in ſhort will not believe that a very ſmall impoſt upon an immenſe population is more productive of revenue than exceſſive duties which annihilate that conſumption, the kingdom of Chili will never reach that pitch of proſperity which might be expected from its ſituation.

Unfortunately this country produces a ſmall quantity of gold. Almoſt all the rivers being auriferous, the inhabitant, by waſhing the earth, can earn, it is ſaid, half a dollar a-day; but as proviſions are very abundant, he has no real want to incite him to labour. Without communication with foreigners, and unacquainted with our luxury and arts, he can deſire nothing with ſufficient energy to overcome his ſloth. The ground therefore lies waſte, the moſt active of the natives being thoſe who devote a few hours to the waſhing of the ſand of their rivers, which exempts them from the neceſſity of learning any trade. The conſequence is, that the houſes, even of the richeſt inhabitants, are bare of furniture, and that all the workmen at Conception come from foreign parts.

The dreſs of the women conſiſts of a plaited petticoat of thoſe old-faſhioned gold and ſilver ſtuffs formerly manufactured at Lyons. Theſe petticoats, which are reſerved for gala days, may, like diamonds, be entailed in a family, and deſcend from the grandmother to the grand daughter. Such dreſſes are, however, confined to a ſmall number of females, the reſt having hardly wherewithal to hide their nakedneſs.

Sloth, ſtill more than credulity and ſuperſtition, has peopled this kingdom with nuns and monks, the latter of whom enjoy greater liberty than in any other country in the world. The misfortune of having nothing to do, the want of family ties, the profeſſion of celibacy, without being ſeparated from the world, and their living in the convenient retirement of their cells, has rendered, and could not fail to render them the greateſt profligates in America. Their effrontery is inconceivable. I have ſeen ſome of them ſtay till midnight at a ball, aloof indeed from the good company, and ſeated among the ſervants. Theſe ſame monks gave our young folks more exact information than they could get elſewhere, concerning places with which prieſts ought only to have been acquainted in order to interdict the entrance.

The common people of Conception are much addicted to thieving, and the women are exceedingly eaſy of acceſs. They are a degenerate and mongrel race; but the inhabitants of the firſt claſs, the true-bred Spaniards, are polite and obliging in the extreme. I ſhould be wanting in gratitude, if I did not paint them in colours ſuitable to their character, which I ſhall endeavour to make known, while giving an account of our own tranſactions.

I was ſcarcely at anchor abreaſt of Talcaguana, when a dragoon brought me a letter from M. Quexada, commandant *pro tempore*, in which he told me, that we ſhould be received like fellow-countrymen. He added with great politeneſs, that the orders he had received in that reſpect, were conformable to the ſentiments of his heart, and to thoſe of all the inhabitants of Conception. This letter was accompanied by refreſhments of all ſorts, which every one haſtened to ſend on board. The quantity was ſo great, that we could neither conſume them, nor knew how to ſtow them away.

Obliged to attend, in the firſt place, to the refitting of my ſhip, and to the depoſiting of our aſtronomical clocks and quadrants on ſhore, I could not go immediately to return my thanks to the governor. I was impatient for an opportunity of acquitting myſelf of that duty, but he was before-hand with me, and came on board, attended by the principal officers of his colony. The following day, I returned his viſit, accompanied by M. de Langle, and ſeveral of the officers and ſcientific men. We were preceded by a detachment of

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ceived, the gold collected annually in the biſhopric of Conception, may be eſtimated at two hundred dollars. There are ſingle plantations at St Domingo, which produces as large an income.

of dragoons, the commanding officer of which had ſtationed half a troop at Talcaguana. Ever ſince our arrival, both they and their horſes were at our command. M. Quexada, M. Sabatero, commandant of the artillery, and the town-major, came to meet us at a league's diſtance from Conception. We all alighted at the houſe of M. Sabatero, where an excellent dinner was put upon the table; and at night there was a ſplendid ball, to which the principal ladies of the place were invited.

The dreſs of theſe ladies, very different from that to which our eyes were accuſtomed, was painted by M. Duche de Vancy. A plaited petticoat which leaves half the leg expoſed, and which is tied a great way below the waiſt; ſtockings ſtriped, red, blue, and white; ſhoes ſo ſhort, that the toes are bent double, which makes the foot appear nearly round; ſuch is the habit of the ladies of Chili. They wear their hair without powder, and divided behind into ſmall braids, which hang down their backs. Their corſet or bodice is generally of gold or ſilver ſtuff, and is covered with two ſhort cloaks, the firſt of muſlin, and the ſecond, which is worn over it, of wool of different colours, blue, yellow, or pink. With theſe woollen cloaks they cover their heads when they are in the ſtreets and the weather is cold; but when in a room they uſually lay them on their knees; and there is a game played with the muſlin cloak, by ſhifting it about inceſſantly, at which the ladies of Conception diſplay a great deal of grace. They are in general pretty, and ſo charmingly polite, that there is certainly no maritime city in Europe where foreign navigators are received with ſo much kindneſs and civility.

About midnight the ball was at an end. As the houſes of the commandant and of M. Sabatero could not contain all the French officers and paſſengers, the inhabitants preſſed us to accept of beds; and in this manner we were quartered in the different parts of the town.

Before dinner, we had been to pay viſits to the principal citizens, and to the Biſhop, a man of great ſenſe, of agreeable manners, and of a charity of which the Spaniſh biſhops afford frequent examples. He is a Creole, born in Peru, was never in Europe; and is ſolely indebted to his merit for his elevation. He talked to us of the regret which Major General Higuins would feel at being detained upon the frontiers by the Indians during our ſhort ſtay in his government. The favourable report made of that officer by every one, and the general eſteem in which he was held, made me lament the circumſtances that occaſioned his abſence. A courier had been diſpatched to him, and his anſwer, which was brought while we were ſtill at Conception, announced his ſpeedy return. He had juſt concluded a glorious peace, that was highly neceſſary to the people of his government, their diſtant habitations being expoſed to the ravages of ſavage nations, who maſſacre the men and children, and make the women priſoners.

The Indians of Chili are no longer thoſe Americans who were inſpired with terror by European weapons. The increaſe of horſes, which are now diſperſed through the interior of the immenſe deſerts of America, and that of oxen and ſheep, which has alſo been very great, have converted theſe people into a nation of Arabs, comparable in every reſpect to thoſe that inhabit the deſerts of Arabia. Conſtantly on horſeback, they conſider an excurſion of two hundred leagues as a very ſhort journey. They march, accompanied by their flocks and herds; feed upon their fleſh and milk; and ſometimes upon their blood*; and cover themſelves with their ſkins, of which they make helmets, cuiraſſes, and bucklers. Hence it appears that the introduction of two domeſtic animals has had a deciſive influence upon the manners of all the tribes which inhabit the country from St Jago to the Straits of Magellan. All their old cuſtoms are laid aſide; they no longer feed on the ſame fruits, nor wear the ſame dreſs; but have a more ſtriking reſemblance to the Tartars, or to the inhabitants of the banks of the Red Sea, than to their anceſtors who lived two centuries ago.

It is eaſy to conceive how formidable ſuch people muſt be to the Spaniards. How is it poſſible to follow them in ſuch long excurſions? How is it poſ-

* I have been aſſured that they ſometimes bleed their oxen and horſes, and drink the blood.

ſible to prevent aſſemblages, which bring together in a ſingle point nations ſcattered over four hundred leagues of country, and thus form armies of thirty thouſand men?

M. Higuins has ſucceeded in gaining the good will of theſe ſavages, and has rendered the moſt ſignal ſervice to the nation that has adopted him; for he was born in Ireland, and belongs to one of thoſe families that are perſecuted on account of their religion, and their old attachment to the houſe of Stuart.

I cannot deny myſelf the pleaſure of making known this worthy officer, whoſe manners are ſo much to the taſte of every country. Like the Indians, I felt an affection for him after the firſt hour's converſation. His return to Conception followed cloſe after his letter; and I was ſcarcely informed of it, when he arrived at Talcaguana. Thus was my viſit again anticipated. But a Major-General of cavalry is ſooner on horſeback than a French ſea officer; and M. Higuins, on whom the country depended for its defence, was poſſeſſed of a degree of activity not eaſily to be matched. His kindneſs, if poſſible, exceeded that of M. Quexada. There was ſo much of truth in his manner, and his affection for all the French was ſo great, that no words could expreſs our ſenſe of gratitude. As we were under obligations to all the inhabitants, we reſolved to give a general entertainment before our departure, and to invite all the ladies of Conception. A large tent was pitched by the ſea ſide, and we gave a dinner to a hundred and fifty perſons of both ſexes, who had complaiſance enough to come three leagues to ſee us. The dinner was followed by a dance, a ſmall diſplay of fire-works, and a paper balloon, large enough to afford an agreeable ſpectacle.

The following day, the ſame tent ſerved us for the purpoſe of giving a great dinner to the crews of both frigates. We all ate at the ſame table, M. de Langle and myſelf were at the head, and each officer, down to the loweſt ſailor, was ſeated according to the rank he held on board. Our diſhes were wooden bowls. Gayety was depicted in the countenance of all the ſailors, who looked better, and were a thouſand times happier, than the day of our departure from Breſt.

The Major-General wiſhing, in his turn, to give an entertainment, we all repaired to Conception, except the officers on duty. M. Higuins came out to meet us, and conducted our cavalcade to his houſe, where a table of a hundred covers was laid; to which all the officers and inhabitants of note were invited, as well as ſeveral ladies. Between the courſes, a Franciſcan monk, who had the gift of improviſing, recited Spaniſh verſes, to celebrate the union that prevailed between the two nations. At night there was a ball, to which all the ladies repaired dreſſed in their fineſt clothes; and a very pretty ballet was danced by officers in maſks. It would be impoſſible to produce a more delightful *fete* in any part of the world. It was given by a man adored in the country, to foreigners of the nation which had the reputation of being the moſt gallant in Europe.

But theſe diverſions, and this good reception, did not make me loſe ſight of my principal object. On the day of our arrival I had given notice that I ſhould ſail on the 15th of March, and that if our veſſels ſhould be refitted, and our proviſions, wood and water, put on board before that time, every one ſhould be at liberty to go and amuſe himſelf on ſhore. Nothing could be better calculated to create diſpatch than this promiſe, of which I feared the effect as much as the ſailors deſired it, becauſe wine is very common at Chili; and becauſe every houſe in Talcaguana is a tavern, and the women of the lower claſſes almoſt as complaiſant as at Otaheite. No diſturbance, however, took place; nor did my ſurgeon make a report of any bad conſequences reſulting from this indulgence.

On the 17th of March, our navigators ſet ſail from Talcaguana, and on the 18th of April, got ſight of Eaſter Iſland, on which they ſoon landed.

(*To be continued.*)

A Voyage to St Domingo, in the Years 1788, 1789, and 1790. By Francis Alexander Staniſlaus Baron de Wimpffen. Tranſlated from the original Manuſcript, which has never been publiſhed. By J. Wright. 8vo. 6s. Boards. Cadell jun. and Davies. 1797.

BARON DE WIMPFFEN'S account

count of his voyage to St Domingo is formed and divided into letters, which are in general well written; and they are rendered lively and more entertaining, by the frequent introduction of his own ſentiments and reflections on the various objects and events which preſented themſelves. The occurrences at ſea, which our author deſcribes, are in general ſimilar to thoſe that we find in the accounts of modern voyages; and indeed many of his communications from St Domingo reſemble thoſe which have been made by other travellers in different parts of the Weſt Indies, becauſe the circumſtances, productions, and modes of life, in all theſe iſlands, have a near reſemblance.

Of the firſt ſettlement made by Europeans in the French part of St Domingo, the author gives the following account:

'Some Frenchmen, driven from Saint Kitts by the Spaniards, with other adventurers of their nation, together with a few Engliſh, found themſelves on the weſtern coaſt of St Domingo, then uninhabited. They eſtabliſhed themſelves there in 1627, and were the original ſtock of the Flebuſtiers; of thoſe men, whoſe audacity in undertaking, whoſe prodigious courage in executing the moſt difficult enterprizes, reduced to the level of children's play, the fabulous exploits of the demi-gods of antiquity; and whoſe ferocity occaſioned one of their chiefs to be called Monbars the Exterminator.

'Diſguſted with their vagabond and perilous mode of exiſtence, ſome of theſe extraordinary men, of whom the greateſt part were Engliſh, betook themſelves to the iſle of Tortuga, (which they had made their magazine in 1630, after driving away about five and twenty Spaniards) on the coaſt of Saint Domingo, where they joined themſelves to the Buccaneers, a ſpecies of hunters, whoſe wandering and precarious habits of life, ſerved the Flebuſtiers as an intermediate ſtep in their paſſage from the ſtate of ſailors and ſoldiers, to that of planters.

'Two things which will always unite men in ſociety cloſer together, the neceſſity of order, and of perpetuating themſelves, determined theſe new inhabitants to aſk for a chief, and for women. The government ſent them at firſt Duparquet, and ſoon after Bertrand D'Ogeron de la Bouere, a gentleman of Angers, who arrived on the ſixth of June 1636. He was ſucceeded by Ducaſſe, and L'Arnage; and the ſelection of theſe men, worthy in every reſpect to command others, proves that governments are not always deceived in the choice of thoſe to whom they delegate a part of their power. "Mild and firm," ſays a modern hiſtorian, ſpeaking of D'Ogeron, "patient and adroit: inſtructed by misfortune, and the habitude of living with this ferocious people; cheriſhed by them, and reſpected by thoſe above him, he was, ſtill ſuperior to the opinion they had formed, I would not ſay of his virtues, but of his talents."

'The choice of women was leſs difficult to make. France, at that time, abounded with poor induſtrious, and modeſt females, whoſe ſweet and ingenuous diſpoſitions would have ſoftened, nay, purified the morals of men, rather unformed than corrupted. What, Sir, did they do? They ſent them proſtitutes, from the hoſpitals, abandoned wretches raked up from the mud of the capital, diſguſting compounds of filth and impurity of the groſſeſt kind. And it is aſoniſhing to me, that their manners, as diſſolute as their language, are not perpetuated in their poſterity, to a greater degree than they really appear to be.'

Of the dreſs, manners, &c. of the white females, in the French part of St Domingo, the author gives the following deſcription.

'If we put off here, Sir, to the epoch when innocence begins to bluſh at its nakedneſs, the precaution of giving a veil to the modeſty of the daughters; that of the mothers has merely what is neceſſary to conceal the nudity, without hiding the ſhape of their limbs. A ſingle petticoat and a looſe gown of the fineſt muſlin compoſe their uſual dreſs—there is no occaſion for a long and narrow examination to diſtinguiſh acroſs the ſaint carnation tinge which floats along this airy veſture, the impoſtures of art from the real treaſures of nature! When circumſtances require them to be dreſſed with more care, they add a coloured under-petticoat, and a corſet: if there be any who have the folly of attemping to ſet themſelves out with more parade, ſo much the worſe for them—they are certainly

not the moſt handſome; and the art which deprives beauty of ſome of its charms, can never embelliſh uglineſs. With reſpect to the face, that muſt be left at all events as it came out of the hands of nature; for however ſkilfully the paint may be applied, we ſhould ſee in a few minutes the charms of the prettieſt made-up face melt away with the ceruſe and the carmine that compoſed it.

'A female Creole, who has never been out of Saint Domingo, would be a creature of a particular ſpecies, were it not for the conformity which an education, ſimilar almoſt in every inſtance, eſtabliſhes between her and the female mulatto. Let this, however, be a ſecret between us: for you will eaſily comprehend that with the prejudices which exiſt here, ſuch a compariſon muſt be an unexpiable crime in the eyes of thoſe whoſe dignity it compromiſes.

'I have no intention to ſpeak of their morals, yet I cannot help obſerving that the female Creoles have ſo much the more merit in living chaſte, as the example of the males, and the education they receive, leave them abſolutely without recourſe againſt the influence of the climate, and the dangers of an eternal idleneſs. They paſs their lives either ſtretched at length, or *chica*, that is ſitting in the oriental manner on mats, where their ſupreme delight is to have the ſoles of their feet tickled by a female ſlave. With the exception of a little cookery, they never employ themſelves in the occupations of their ſex: for in all parts of the world, where labour is the lot of the ſlave, idleneſs is neceſſarily a prerogative of the maſter. The only art in which they excel, the only one in which, I am told, their diligence equals their knowledge, is the art which conſtitutes not the leaſt indifferent parts of the *Ars Amandi* of Ovid or of Bernard.'

Our readers will now be able to judge of the general merit of this work.—It muſt, however, be remembered that the author's accounts and deſcriptions (with a few exceptions, relating chiefly to immoveable or unchangeable objects) will no longer accord with the ſtate of things in St Domingo: where all the varieties of deſolation, all the modes of deſtruction and miſery which can reach human exiſtence and human induſtry, have co-operated to ſweep away or change almoſt every thing that was worthy of attention. M. R.

A Practical Treatiſe on Draining Bogs and Swampy Grounds, illuſtrated by Figures, with curſory Remarks upon the Originality of Mr Elkington's Mode of Draining &c. By James Anderſon, LL. D. F. R. SS. &c. &c. 8vo. 6s. Boards. Robinſons.

THIS diſpute regarding the firſt diſcovery of the art of draining ground, has been once and again before the public. Mr Elkington has obtained a premium from parliament of 1000l. for a mode of draining by what he calls *tapping* of ſprings, which Dr A. ſays he diſcovered, practiſed and explained many years ago. Dr A. however does not poſitively accuſe Mr E. of having taken the hint from his *Eſſays relating to Agriculture and Rural Affairs*: it may with him have been an original thought: but Dr A. contends that Mr E. was not the firſt inventor.

Dr A. tells us in what manner he was led to the diſcovery of draining by boring or tapping. It is curious; and we think that our readers will deem it worth inſertion:

"I had a field of wet land that lay very flat, but ſo ſurrounded by ditches, that no *ſurface* water could come to it from higher ground any where, and poſſeſſing at the ſame time ſuch a level as to prevent any water from neceſſarily ſtagnating upon it. The field was ſo wet, that in many places it was a mere hobbling bog, over which a man could ſcarcely paſs during the driеſt weather in ſummer. This was a very unprofitable as well as diſagreeable *object*; and, in the beginning of the year 1764, I ſet about ſeriouſly to have it drained. On conſidering the circumſtances of the caſe with attention, I ſoon perceived that as no *ſurface* water could come upon it from the higher ground; and as the rain that fell upon the field itſelf was ſuffered freely to run off, the water that drowned it muſt riſe up from *below*. But as the weight of the atmoſphere acted on this field as well as on thoſe around, the water could not be made to aſcend, as in a pump, by means of ſuction: it muſt, then, be forced to take that direction in conſequence of ſome powerful preſſure from below

below ground, acting ſo ſtrongly as to overcome its natural gravity. This preſſure, it was evident, could only be in conſequence of the water flowing from higher ground, *under the ſurface*, through a ſtratum of pervious matter, being pent in near the bottom, by a ſtratum of clay placed above it, and thus forced to riſe to a higher level, than the low ground, in this kind of ſubterraneous canal, ſo as, by the natural gravity, to be ſqueezed forcibly through ſmall fiſſures in the ſuperior ſtratum of clay. If ſo, it would neceſſarily follow, that ſhould a hole be dug through the ſuperincumbent ſtratum of clay, ſo as to reach the bed of the reſervoir, the water would be allowed to iſſue freely through that opening, and to run off the ground by its natural level; and thus would the accumulated water, which occaſioned the preſſure, be gradually diſcharged, after which, it could no longer be forced up through the ſmall fiſſures in the clay; and, of courſe, the wetneſs, which had ariſen ſolely from that cauſe, muſt be gradually removed. On this reaſoning, which ſeemed perfectly concluſive, and which was confirmed by obſerving that the ſubſoil of that field was every where a ſtiff clay, mixed with ſmall ſtones, the dry weather was no ſooner ſet in, than I put a man to dig a pit as near to the edge of this ſwaggle as he could approach, ordering him to penetrate directly downwards, making the pit no larger than was ſufficient to allow him to work, and to proceed without interruption, until he ſhould perceive that, on making his ſtrokes, it ſhould ſound as if it were ſomewhat hollow below. On obſerving this, he was deſired immediately to deſiſt, until he called me, and received farther orders. The labourer accordingly fell to work; but he found the ground ſo hard, that, in the courſe of two days, he had only penetrated to the depth of about five feet. During that time, I frequently viſited the work to examine appearances. Nothing remarkable occurred, ſave that little peering ſprings often were diſcovered, through which the water iſſued; but the quantity of water that came from them was not ſuch as to interrupt the work. On the morning of the third day, about breakfaſt time, the labourer called on me, and ſaid, that as his ſtroke gave a *douf ſound*, (that was his phraſe) he had called on me, according to my deſire. I went immediately with him to the place, and having made him go down into the pit, I deſired him to ſhow me in what manner he could come out of it. He then pointed out to me a kind of ſteps he had made into the clay on one ſide; and having lent him my hand to aſſiſt him, I found he could get out very quickly. I then ordered him to take a kind of ſpade pointed iron crow, with a croſs handle and foot to it, which he had found a very uſeful tool in looſening the clay, and give a ſtroke of that with all his force upon the bottom, which he did.—On this, to his great ſurpriſe, the tool penetrated a thin crut, and then fell down, from one to two feet, as in a vacuity. Through the opening thus made, a ſtrong jet of water ruſhed inſtantly with impetuoſity; but I being aware of it, and at hand to aſſiſt the man in mounting, he got very quickly to the ſurface, and out of all danger, though not a little terrified at what had happened. The ſtream was at firſt ſo large as might, I ſuppoſe, have filled a pipe of from ſix to twelve inches diameter; and roſe, as a *jet d'eau*, to the height of ſix feet at leaſt, above the ſurface of the ground. The labourer, who had no idea of ſuch a phenomenon, looked upon it with an overpowering aſtoniſhment, which would have furniſhed a fine ſubject for the painter. The ſtream continued to flow, and to riſe above the ſurface of the ground for about a week; but gradually abated in height, till it aroſe not above the ſurface of the ground, and continued ſtill to flow; but the quantity of water gradually diminiſhed, till it at laſt ſettled into a perennial ſpring, which continues to run till the preſent day.

"The conſequence of this operation was, that during the courſe of the enſuing ſummer, the water gradually drained off from the boggy ground; the ſwaggle ſlowly acquired a firm ſurface, ſo as to admit of being ploughed at any ſeaſon; and about twenty acres of ground were thereby drained, which, before that time, had been, in a great meaſure, uſeleſs for every agricultural purpoſe."

An

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Whether in bow'r or hall,
Where coyly-wanton beauty wounds,
Where muſic breathes impaſſion'd ſounds,
Thou ſmil'ſt, to thee I call.

Tho' love my cup of pleaſure ſours,
And ſtops thee too—too lagging hours;
If thou, heart-eaſing fair,
Once deign to grace my lonely roof,
Pale fac'd dejection keeps aloof,
And ſorrow melts to air.

In vain the Bacchanalian crew
Thee mild with wine and roſes woo,
To grace their orgies wild;
Where laughs debauch, where riot ſings,
Thou fly'ſt the rout on equal wings,
Thou Health and Virtue's child.

Let fly ſuſpicion ſeek the glade
Of ſocial intercourſe afraid,
Inwrapp'd in double gloom;
See Cacodæmons rule the ſkies,
At every ſtep ſee terrors riſe,
And yell his diſmal doom:

Tho' ſunny Afric own'd my ſway,
And in my ſtores Potoſi lay,
Each craving wiſh ſupply'd;
Unleſs thou com'ſt, Euphroſyne,
And bring'ſt thy nurſe Content with thee,
'Twere irkſome all beſide.

In vain I importune the Nine
Around my brows their wreaths to twine,

To ſtrike the Teian lyre;
My blood without thee anxious flows,
Nor fit nor juſt my judgment knows,
My fancy feels no fire.

Regret and mopiſh bodings fly,
Enliv'ning Queen, when thou art by,
Chagrin nor dares to ſtay;
Raſh ſuicide let falls the bowl,
Fond expectation warms the ſoul,
And whiſpers, "Be thou gay."

In vain foul vice aſſumes thy mien,
Alone fair virtue ſmiles ſerene,
Serene, tho' Kings diſgrace;
The thorns that goad the villain's breaſt,
The ſecret dread that breaks his reſt,
Bely the vizor'd face:

Let dire eccentric comets glare,
Let fire-ey'd plague inf. & the air,
Let earthquakes rock the ground;
No ſunk deſpondency repines.
No Cavil taxes God's deſigns,
Where thou, Divine, art found.

Blithe Hope, in amice green array'd,
And meek-eyed Peace that woes the glade,
Thy genuine offspring are;
Thou paint'ſt with purpler ſtreaks the dawn,
Thou tint'ſt with brighter bredes the lawn,
And fairer mak'ſt the fair:

For, if not fabulous my lore,
Thou art the magic zone ſhe wore,
She, Queen of wreathed ſmiles!
By thee ſhe fix'd in ev'ry heart
The pleaſurably-painful dart,
From thee ſhe ſtole her wiles.

If, with thy ſweetly-winning ray,
Thou gild'ſt the cloſe of life's decay,
Old age has pow'r to charm;
Without thee, Goddeſs debonnaire!
Not youth, not breathing youth is fair,
No gazer's breaſt can warm.

Wherever, Queen thou deign'ſt to go,
Fruits hang, flow'rs bud, clear ſtreamlets flow,
The echoing banks between;
Mild vernal airs around thee throng,
And all is ſun, and all is ſong,
And all fair freſh'ning green.

Staid pleaſures in thy preſence wait,
Superior thou to frowns of fate,
To fretful Hymen's chains:
Thou art Religion's genuine look,
Thou art Philoſophy's rebuke,
That wins while it reſtrains.

O Cheerfulneſs! thy ſteady beam
By far outſhines mirth's tranſient gleam;
Mirth, mourning's firm ally!
Raſh apiſh folly is his guide,
Wiſdom is ever at thy ſide,
And chaſte hilarity.

Alas! I court thy ſmiles in vain,
Love throbs with keener, fonder pain,
While mem'ry paints the paſt;
Yet, cheerfulneſs, I'd not forego
This pleaſing anxious ſenſe of woe,
For all the joys thou haſt.

FOR THE SCOTS MAGAZINE.

ODE
TO THE SKY-LARK.

THRON'D in a car of ſapphire hue,
Hyperion mounts the ſkies;
The varied ſcenes their ſmiles renew,
And night reluctant flies.

Ariſe, their herald of the morn,
No cruel hawke is near,
No fatal ſhot, unerring borne,
Thy tender frame ſhall tear.

Whene'er by contemplation drawn,
Sweet bird of pipe to thrill,
I tread with early ſteps the lawn,
Or climb the dewy hill;

Then ſoaring in the clouds remote,
Awake thy native airs;
Th' ecſtatic warbling of thy throat
Shall free my ſoul from cares. D. T.

Edinburgh College.

ODE

Addreſſed to DR ROBERT ANDERSON, *Of Heriot's-Green, Edinburgh, after a Viſit paid him by the Author, and various Peditrian Excurſions in Scotland.*

By Mr DYER.

WHERE is the King of Songs *? He ſleeps in death:
No more around him preſs the warrior-throng;
He rolls no more the death-denouncing ſong;
Calm'd is the ſtorm of war, and hush'd the poet's breath.
Yes! Anderſon, he ſleeps: but Carrun's ſtream †
Still ſeems reſponſive to his awful lyre;
And oft where Clutha's winding waters gleam ‡,

* A name applied to Oſſian the ſon of Fingal, in the poems aſcribed to him, as tranſlated by Macpherſon: concerning the authenticity of theſe poems it is unneceſſary to ſay any thing here.—Oſſian lived in the third century.

† Carron, or Carrun, a ſmall river in Stirlingſhire, in the neighbourhood of Agricola's Wall. The ſcene of the dramatic poem entitled, "*The War of Caros*," lies on the banks of the river. See Oſſians Poems.

‡ The river Clyde.

So

Shall pilgrim-poets burn with kindred fire.
Sunk are Balclutha's walls, and ſhatter'd low
The fort-high-beetling, gem of Roman pride;
Sleeps too Fingal ‖, and ſleeps th' Imperial foe §,
Each in his narrow dwelling doom'd to bide.
Quench'd is the poet's eye—but ſhines his name,
As thro' a broken cloud the ſun's far-darting flame.
Where now Dunbar *? The bard has run his race:
But glitters ſtill the Golden Terge on high;
Nor ſhall the thunder ſtorm that ſweeps the ſky,
'Mid it's wide waſte, the glorious orb deface.
Dunkeld †, no more the heaven-directed chaunt
Within thy ſainted wall may ſound again.
But thou, as once a poet's favourite haunt—
Shalt live in Douglas' pure Virgilian ſtrain:
While time devours the caſtle's towering wall,
And roofleſs abbies † pine, low tottering to their fall.

Oh! Tweed, ſay, does thy rolling ſtream betide
The patriot's ardour, or the bigot's rage?
In union doſt thou diſtant friends engage?
Or flow, a boundary ‖ river, to divide?
If love direct, roll on, thou generous ſtream,
Thy banks, oh! Tweed, I kiſs, and hail thee friend:
But while thy waters, ſerpent-winding gleam,
Should ſerpent treacheries on thy courſe attend,
Thy banks diſdainful would I rove along,
Tho' every bard * that ſings, ſhould raiſe thee in his ſong.

But, no, my friend†: I read thy candid page,
And catch the fervor of thy generous mind,
Be mine, with chaplets Scotian brows to bind,
While England's bards thy ſtudious hours engage.
The Highland nymph ſhall melt with England's lay;
And Engliſh ſwains be charm'd with Scotia's ſong;
Tho' rude the language, yet to themes ſo gay,
The ſofteſt powers of melody belong.
Still, Ramſay, ſhall thy Gentle Shepherd ‡ pleaſe,
Still, Burns §, thy ruſtic mirths, and amorous minſtrelſies.

When ſhall I view again with raviſh'd ſight,
As when with thee, my Anderſon, I ſtray'd,
And all the wonder-varying ſcene ſurvey'd,
Seas, hills, and city fair from Calton's height?
When hear, (for Scotia's rhymes ah! ſoon ſhall fail)
Some Ednam ‖ bard awoke the trembling ſtring,
Some tuneful youth of charming Tiviot-dale,
Some Kelſo ¶ ſongſtreſs love's dear raptures ſing?
Language may change; but ſong ſhall never die,
Till beauty fail to charm, till love forget to ſigh.

‖ The father of Oſſian.

§ The Emperor of Rome, Caracalla.

* The principal of the ancient Scottiſh poets. He chiefly excels in deſcriptive poetry: of which ſpecies of compoſition is "*The Golden Terge.*" Dunbar died in the middle of the 16th century; his poems were ſome time ſince republiſhed in Scotland.

† Dunkeld in Perthſhire, was formerly an epiſcopal ſee; and Gawin Douglas, brother to the Earl of Angus, an excellent poet was ſome time biſhop of it. Douglas tranſlated Virgil; the prologues to which diſplay wonderful powers of deſcription. Other poems alſo were written by this writer, the moſt diſtinguiſhed of which is an allegorical poem, entitled, "*King Hart.*" Douglas died in 1522. See "*Pinkerton's Ancient Scottiſh Poems,*" in two vols. 8vo.

‡ The ruins of a fine abbey are at Dunkeld.

‖ The river Tweed divides England and Scotland.

* The Tweed has been much celebrated by the Scottiſh poets, and is the ſcene of ſome of their moſt beautiful ſongs.

† Dr Anderſon is editor of "The Works of the Britiſh Poets, from Chaucer to the preſent time, including alſo the beſt tranſlations from the claſſical Greek and Latin Poets, with prefaces, Biographical and Critical."

‡ A paſtoral drama, written by Allan Ramſay, much admired in Scotland, perhaps too much; but certainly much under-rated by ſome writers. See preface to "*Ancient Scottiſh Poems,*" vol. 1.

§ The well known Robert Burns.

‖ A village near Kelſo in Berwickſhire, near which the little river Eden flows, from which the village takes its name: the native place of Thomſon, the author of the Seaſons.

¶ Near Kelſo the rivers Tiviot and Tweed join; this is the claſſical ground of Scotland.

SONNET,

On Two beautiful CHILDREN *at Play.*

SWEET innocents! who the unheeded hour
Of infancy beguile with thoughtleſs play,
Ne'er may the clouds of black misfortune low'r
On the fair proſpect of your life's bright day!
As to the beam of morn the bluſhing roſe
Spreads her moiſt leaves, your tender mind unvail
Their budding charms, nor head the train of woes,
Whoſe lurking thorns beſet this tearful vale,
Now ſpirits gay, and innocent deſires,
Light in your little breaſts their harmleſs fires:
The ſad reverſe, ah! never may ye prove,
Never may wounded ſenſibility
Heave your ſoft boſoms with one deep-drawn ſigh,
For friendſhip broken, or for hopeleſs love!

I. S.

PROLOGUE

To the Entertainment of 'The Mouth of the Nile.'

BY MR CUMBERLAND.

A GLORIOUS Vict'ry, Britons, we record,
Vict'ry, the gift of Heav'n's Almighty Lord;
So the brave Chief with grateful tranſport ſays,
Who to the God of battle gives the praiſe;
Warm at his heart he felt the quick'ning flame,
And own'd from whom the inſpiration came:
Doom'd to redreſs the ſuff'ring world, he bore
England's avenging flag to Egypt's ſhore;
There found his long-fought foe—in dread array,
Rang'd for the fight, the proud Armada lay:
At once reſolv'd to conquer or to die,
He bade his thund'ring cannon rend the ſky,
Dauntleſs amid the battle's horror ſtood,
Waving Britannia's Trident o'er the flood,
The air above, all fire—the ſea below, all blood.
Now let our ſcene from this your native Iſle
Waft you in fancy to the ſhores of Nile:
In this gay moment, ſure, you'll not refuſe
To hold ſhort dalliance with a merry Muſe:
Who, by the tide of rapture driv'n amain,
Chaunts forth her wild, enthuſiaſtic ſtrain;
A Sailor's Songſtreſs ſhe, and little grac'd
With the fine ornaments of poliſh'd taſte,
For ditties formed the rugged Tar to cheer,
Muſt ſtrike *con brio* on the deafen'd ear;
And ſtrong in lungs ſhould that bold Minſtrel be,
Who ſings in chorus with the roaring ſea;
Soft, thrilling quavers cannot ſuit the throat
Which Nelſon tunes to triumph's loudeſt note;
If quaver's are your taſte, good folk, you'll meet
Enough of them, per-chance, in t'other fleet;
While our brave Tars ſtruck up the fav'rite lay
Of Rule Britannia on that glorious day.
'Tis a proud ſtrain, but Father Nile was there,
And the Old Boy, by all his Gods will ſwear,
That our brave Admiral made good the claim,
And by the ſelf-ſame token wears his Name.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NAVAL VICTORIES.

Nov. 21. *Mr Dundas* roſe, and, agreeable to his notice, ſaid, that notwithſtanding the many glorious and brilliant victories which had diſtinguiſhed the Britiſh arms in every quarter of Europe, through the courſe of the war, there was not one marked with circumſtances ſo ſingular, with advantages ſo great, as that which diſtinguiſhes the late victory gained over the French at the Mouth of the Nile. So undaunted was the bravery, ſo animated the exertions of each individual, on that glorious day, that it was difficult to diſtinguiſh the ſuperiority of any one, where the bravery of all was allowed. The French was poſſeſſed of a ſuperior force, their ſituation had rendered them almoſt impregnable, yet they fell before the naval arms of the gallant ſquadron which had defeated and annihilated them.—Whether we looked to the bravery of men in the important con-

conqueſt, or the conſequences that reſulted from it to our affairs both abroad and at home, the ſhock will be found to have electrified every corner of Europe. No victory was more extenſive in its effects, or more important in its conſequences, than that which he had the honour of ſignally marking to the Houſe. He would then move the thanks of that Honourable houſe to Rear-Admiral Nelſon, for his brave, ſpirited, and gallant conduct on the memorable 1ſt of Auguſt, in having gained a complete victory over the French fleet, though ſuperior in force to that by which they were attacked.

Mr Tierney hoped, that in riſing, he ſhould not be thought to have any inclination in oppoſing the vote of thanks which the Right Honourable Secretary had moved to the brave Rear-Admiral Nelſon, who had ſo ably and gallantly diſtinguiſhed himſelf on that ever memorable day. No man felt more warmly than he did, nor none more willing to concur in that vote. The houſe would do him the juſtice, he believed, to allow that he ever readily coincided with Miniſters whenever their plans were beneficial to the public good, and though a diverſity of ſentiment prevented him from giving his approbation to their general meaſures, yet on the preſent occaſion they had his moſt hearty vote. He truſted due precautions were taken by Government to counteract any attacks on our Eaſt India ſettlements; and that Buonaparte's army would not be able to effect the invaſion of that territory; this he ſhould hope from the tone of the Addreſs, which was marked with much confidence.

Mr Hobhouſe noticed the modeſty that diſtinguiſhed the conduct of Lord Nelſon, who, when wounded in the action, would impute the merits of the victory to the exertions of his brave officers alone, obſerving, the ſervice would loſe nothing by his wounds, or death; and the piety by which the victory was aſcribed to Providence alone. Theſe were circumſtances which peculiarly recommended that brave man to public notice. He wiſhed a ſtill higher honour was conferred; but this he underſtood to be owing to a regulation of naval rank, and he mentioned it as ſuch, as he commanded but a detachment.

Mr Pitt replied to thoſe obſervations, that it was his intention to ſtate, tomorrow, further favours intended to Rear-Admiral Lord Nelſon.

The thanks were then voted by the Houſe to Rear-Admiral Lord Nelſon; and to the ſeveral Captains, commanders, and officers, for the memorable victory on the 1ſt of Auguſt.

Mr Dundas moved, that a monument ſhould be erected in St Paul's, in veneration of the memory of Captain Charles Weſtcott, who fell on that day; and that his Majeſty ſhould give directions for that purpoſe. Agreed to.

THANKS TO SIR J. B. WARREN.

Mr Dundas ſaid, he ſhould not do his duty to the Houſe, if he omitted mentioning the ſignal ſervices which Sir John Borlaſe Warren had rendered the country. It may be ſaid, that he had the good fortune to encounter the enemy with a ſuperior force; this ſhould not detract from his praiſes, as he (Mr Dundas) always conſidered him the moſt fortunate man who put himſelf moſt in fortune's way. His ſucceſſes relieved the public mind from the fear of theſe evils that threatened the peace of the empire, and, though his victories were not ſo brilliant, they were no leſs ſolid and ſerviceable; on thoſe grounds, he would move the thanks of that Houſe to Sir John Borlaſe Warren, for his total defeat of the French armament deſtined for the coaſt of Ireland, on the 12th of October laſt.—Agreed to *nem. con.*

Thanks were then moved to the Captains, officers, &c. and agreed to *nem. con.*

LORD NELSON.

Mr Pitt brought down the following meſſage from his Majeſty:—

G. R. His Majeſty having taken into his royal conſideration, the ſignal and important ſervice performed by Rear-Admiral Sir Horatio Nelſon, by his ever memorable and deciſive victory over a ſuperior French Fleet, off the Mouth of the Nile, on the 1ſt of Auguſt laſt; a victory not only honourable to himſelf, but eminently beneficial to theſe kingdoms; and being deſirous to beſtow ſome conſiderable and laſting mark of his royal favour as a teſtimony of his approbation of ſuch ſignal ſervice, has determined to give and grant, to the ſaid Admiral Lord Nelſon, Baron Nelſon of the Nile, and

of

of Burnham Thorpe, in the county of Norfolk, and to the two of his next male heirs, to whom the faid Barony fhall defcend, a nett annuity, or clear yearly fum of 2000l. for the term of their refpective lives. But his Majefty not having it in his power to give or grant a fum to that amount, beyond the period of his own life, recommends to his faithful Commons to take fuch meafures as may be neceffary, for enabling his Majefty to give and grant the faid annuity of 2000l. to the faid Admiral Lord Nelfon, Baron Nelfon of the Nile, and of Burnham Thorpe, in the county of Norfolk, for the term of his natural life, and of fecuring, fettling, and continuing the fame to two of his next male heirs, to whom the faid Barony fhall defcend, in fuch manner as may be moft effectual for their benefit.

Mr Pitt moved that his Majefty's meffage be referred to the Committee of the whole Houfe on to-morrow.

NAVY.

26. *Lord Arden* moved, that it is the opinion of this Committee, that 120,000 feamen, including 10,000 marines, fhould be employed for the fervice of the year 1799.

Sir John Sinclair faid, that, *conſidering the financial ſituation of the country*, he thought the number of 120,000 much too large. At the laft year of the American war, the vote was only for 110,000 feamen, at a time when we had to contend againft the united fleets of France, Spain, and Holland, whofe numbers were eſtimated at 140 fail of the line, and not like the preſent period, when we were unequivocally maſters of the fea.

Mr Pitt faid, it would not be neceſſary for him long to detain the Committee, inaſmuch as the Hon. Baronet had not aſſigned any ſpecific reaſon for his opinion, except that at the cloſe of the American war the vote of the Houſe was only for 110,000 feamen. The Hon. Baronet had not at all adverted to the different ſituations of the country as relative to the vote at the time;—if he had, he might have found that 110,000 was as much as the ſituation of the country could then afford, or as they had the means of ſupporting. Since that time, by the great extenſion and improvement of our commerce, we have riſen to a degree of wealth and opulence which enabled us to ſupport a force far beyond what that period could maintain; we had arrived to an unprecedented height in commercial pre-eminence, which had produced us unprecedented ſucceſs in our naval arms; we had blockaded all the ports of our enemies; our foreign ſtations had been ſecured and protected; our commerce had remained without interruption, from the able aſſiſtance it received from the naval power of the country. Every quarter of the world bore teſtimony of the glorious victories and brilliant ſucceſs which had attended our naval arms. Then, though indeed the bravery and conduct of our ſeamen and officers was eminent and conſpicuous, yet their utmoſt efforts, from our interiority to the enemy, could only but juſt reſcue us from calamity and diſtreſs; now we had ſo far exceeded all former periods, as not only to repel every attempt of our enemy, but had riſen to a ſituation of the higheſt ſplendor and glory. With ſome perſons, the advantages we had gained might be an argument for diminiſhing our force; but to wiſe men, perhaps, it might appear better to follow up, and improve our advantage; and, in that condition, to wait until a ſeaſon ſhould arrive when ſuch overtures ſhould be made by the enemy for peace, as might be ſuitable to the intereſt, the honour, and dignity of the Britiſh empire; and when we might find the relative ſituation of all Europe moſt materially altered for the better. We found every where our navy thundering its ſuperiority, and the wretched remnant of the enemy's naval force was reduced either to a ſtate of confuſion, or elſe blocked up in their own ports, not daring to come out to face us. Should we now ſtop ſhort, and refuſe to avail ourſelves of the advantages which Providence had laid before us, and which indeed, to uſe a ſentence from his Majeſty's ſpeech, "leads to the general deliverance of Europe?"—Did it become the character of the Britiſh nation, always renowned for valour, and good faith to other powers, and whoſe name was now ſo conſpicuouſly glorious, and was placed in a condition to become indeed the deliverer of Europe from the greateſt calamity that ever yet afflicted this world, to relax in its efforts, or diminiſh its force? He believed the Committee would

would think otherwiſe. He concluded with obſerving, that until the Honourable Baronet had advanced ſomething that had a tendency towards the proof of his aſſertion, that 110,000 men are ſufficient for this country at this moment, he ſhould take the liberty of ſaying, that (the Hon. Baronet himſelf excepted) he believed there was not one individual in the Houſe would give a diſſenting voice to the vote now before them; and under this impreſſion he ſhould not ſay another word.

Mr Tierney ſaid, that from him the Miniſter ſhould not hear any diſſenting voice upon the preſent reſolution, becauſe he thought it a meaſure which the ſituation of public affairs required, and he voted for the reſolution with the more pleaſure, becauſe that part of the ſervice had been conducted in a manner that deſerved the confidence of the country.

The reſolution was then put and carried—As were alſo the ſeveral reſolutions to defray the expence of the above vote for 13 months.

The reſolutions being reported to the Houſe, the report was ordered for to-morrow.

27. *Mr W. Dundas* brought up a bill to continue the Scots ſmall note act, which was read a firſt time, and ordered to be read a ſecond time to-morrow. Lord Neiſon's annuity bill was read a ſecond time, and committed for to-morrow.

Mr Hobart brought up the report of the Committee of Supply. On the reading of the reſolution for granting a ſupply of 120,000 ſeamen for the year 1799,

Sir John Sinclair roſe to enforce his objections. He ſaid, on every conſideration he had given the ſubject, the exigencies of the ſtate did not ſeem to require ſo great a number. When he conſidered the reduced ſtate of our enemy's fleet, and the ſkill and gallantry of our ſeamen; when he conſidered that we were to be aſſiſted by the fleets of Ruſſia, of the Porte, and of Portugal, which the hon. gentleman (Mr Pitt) did not think proper to mention laſt night; and when he conſidered the ſtate of our finances, which required the moſt rigid œconomy, he found it impoſſible to abandon his objection to the grant of ſo large a number. On the diſtribution of the navy, he could not ſpeak with certainty, becauſe he had not the neceſſary means of information; but, on reference to Steele's Liſt, the only authority he could conſult, he found our ſhips amounted to 143, of which 85 were in actual ſervice, 28 fitting out, and 33 fail of the line acting as guard-ſhips. Of theſe, he thought the number of 53, cooped up in port, and applied to ſuch ſervice, required ſome explanation. But as he was charged with ſingularity of opinion in recommending to ſmall a number as 110,000, he would beg leave to refer to what paſſed laſt year when it was propoſed as amply ſufficient: He would alſo refer to the concluſion of the American war, when the navy of the enemy amounted to 140 ſail, though now not 70; and therefore, if we were to be guided in our vote by the ſtrength of the enemy, 55,000 ſeamen would be now equivalent to 110,000 at that period. The circumſtance of reduction he would conſider in three points of view: *1ſt*, Under the ſuppoſition of an approaching peace; *2dly*, Of protracted war; and *3dly*, Of a general or continental war. Our force now amounted to 120,000 ſeamen, and 400,000 ſoldiers. In the firſt of theſe events, we would have to diſcharge 70,000 ſeamen, and 350,000 ſoldiers. But, excluſive of this, he knew the country greatly diſtreſſed for labourers; and the vote of an unneceſſary number muſt increaſe the evil. In the ſecond event, he would aſk, Ought not the war to be carried on with the ſtricteſt regard to œconomy? And with regard to the third, he would aſk, Was we to derive no benefit from our allies, but be obliged to ſupport the ſame eſtabliſhment as tho' we ſtood alone?—Sir John ſaid, an Hon. Baronet had offered to prove our eſtabliſhment might be reduced five millions leſs than it now was.

Mr J. H. Wallace thought that thoſe men who were beſt acquainted with the buſineſs, were the beſt judges of the number of ſeamen neceſſary; and that from their exertions, as hitherto diſplayed, they would not have demanded ſo large a vote if it was not deemed expedient. Though 110,000 men were at firſt held ſufficient, laſt year, yet it was thought dangerous to hazard the ſafety of the country to that number; and an application was ſhortly

ly after made for an augmentation of 10,000. The guard ships were nothing more than a rendezvous for naval recruits, and could not supply the place of any reduction; and further, in 1783, the period alluded to by the Hon. Baronet, notwithstanding Lord Rodney's victory, an addition of 10,000 was voted. He thought the difference would change the war from an offensive to a defensive one, and that would be purchasing the reduction at too dear a rate.

General Tarleton said, every friend of humanity must undoubtedly wish for peace, but every friend to his country must wish it to be an honourable and secure one. But such a peace was more likely to be obtained while we were in a proud and menacing attitude, than if we were to place ourselves in a weak and feeble position. He should always be happy to give thanks where he thought thanks were due; and it was his sincere opinion, that the detaching Sir R. Curtis to join Lord St Vincent had completely turned the tide of the war.

The resolution was then agreed to, and a bill ordered to be brought in founded upon it.

Mr Pitt moved, that the act 38th of his present Majesty be read.

The act was read by the clerk accordingly, which referred to the impowering Government to accept of the offers of part of the English militia to serve in Ireland.

Mr Pitt then remarked, that fortunately for the country, the effects produced by that singular offer, gallantry and zeal of the militia, rendered it unnecessary for him to remark on the expediency of accepting the offer which had been made; at the same time, the House could not consider the present state of Ireland to have arrived at that state of security, as to admit of the public's dispensing with their further and future services. How long circumstances may require the continuation of those services he could not take upon him to say; it would be unnecessary, therefore, to detain the House with any further arguments on the subject; he should therefore content himself with moving for leave to bring in a bill for the further continuance of said act, for a time to be limited.—Adjourned.

24. *The Hon. Captain Berkeley* brought up the report of the Committee, to whom his Majesty's message respecting Lord Nelson had been referred. It stated that the committee were of opinion, an annuity, or clear yearly sum of 2000l. should be granted to his Majesty, payable out of the consolidated fund from the 1st of August 1798, to enable his Majesty to settle the same in the most beneficial manner, to the use of Admiral Lord Nelson, and the two next succeeding heirs on whom the title shall descend. The report was received, agreed to *nem. con.* and Captain Berkeley, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr Dundas, ordered to prepare and bring in a bill accordingly.

Mr Rose moved for an account of the army and navy estimates for the year 1799, with an estimate of the half pay of such officers of the navy and marines as were not employed the last year. Also for an estimate of the charge for guards and garrisons; for lists of regimental and warrant officers to be on half-pay during the year 1799; of the out pensioners of Chelsea and Greenwich Hospitals; and for an account of services incurred, and not provided for by Parliament. And that an address might be presented to his Majesty, praying that the above estimates might be laid before the House. He also added a motion for an estimate of the probable expence of the transport service.

ARMY ESTIMATES.

30. The House in a Committee, the *Secretary at War* said, he thought the readiest way of stating to the Committee the estimates, would be to refer to the years 1797 and 1798; and, by comparing the expenditure with the demands of the service, Gentlemen would be enabled to account for what may not appear to them at first view, the encreased demand for the ensuing year. He stated the difference arising from the necessary augmentation of the army at one million. This augmentation arose from the increase in the militia, in dragoon regiments, in the foot guards, and in the regiments destined for the West Indies. Another article, which contributed to the enlargement was, that the supplementary militia, last year, had been taken on an estimate only for a limited time; whereas their services, from the unexpected course of

of events, had rendered their continuance abſolutely neceſſary: To theſe were to be added the Scots militia, fourteen new corps of fencible infantry, and volunteer corps; the eſtimate of barracks, in which the troops were now lodged throughout the country; and the increaſed ſum granted to the widows of officers, which was not above 30l. per annum, on the average, to each; a grant in which, in indulging his own feelings, he hoped he ſhould meet with the indulgence of the Committee. Theſe ſums, which would appear from the eſtimates, together with the conſtruction and reparation of Scotch roads and bridges, would make up the ſum total; and which, as eſpecially mentioned in the papers before the Houſe, he would not now recapitulate. The Secretary at War entered here into an account of the arrangements which were made in the War-Office, and expreſſed his doubts that the ſavings gained by the curtailing of the fees from the different branches would be inſufficient to make good the ſums that were neceſſary to augment the pay of thoſe who were conſidered as under paid, or be ſufficiently productive for thoſe new offices which were neceſſarily created. He then ſaid, that he would propoſe the reſolutions to the committee, unleſs a queſtion ſhould ariſe.

Mr Tierney hoped, that one of the advantages that the public would gain by our late ſucceſſes would be a reduction in our army eſtabliſhment. How was he ſurpriſed, how would the public be ſurpriſed, when, inſtead of reduction, they would have the ſum of 100,000l. more to pay in the article of barracks alone; ſo far from deriving any advantages from the merits of thoſe gallant men who had ſo eminently diſtinguiſhed themſelves in the ſervice of the country. On this point he would take the opinion of others, as the report, he ſuppoſed, would be deferred a day or two. He was ſure this want of œconomy in Miniſters would occaſion great diſſatisfaction in the public mind; and he, for one, would not ſit ſtill, and liſten to the manner in which the money was voted away without reprehending it. He regretted he ſaw no ſymptom of œconomy in a quarter where it ſhould appear now moſt practicable; but declared that he did not wiſh to ſee any one eſtabliſhment reduced that would prevent this country from appearing in a formidable and menacing attitude to the enemy, and in ſuch a ſituation as would ſecure to it its ſalvation.

Mr Pitt ſaid, he was inclined never to oppoſe œconomy while it was conſiſtent with the due performance of public duty; but he would not loſe ſight of the ſentiment which was ſo ſtrongly expreſſed by the Hon. Gentleman oppoſite to him (Mr Tierney). That Hon. Gentleman had ſaid, that this country ſhould be put in a powerful, and menacing attitude towards the enemy. But then he ſaid that we had not the full advantage of our ſucceſſes, ſucceſſes which were felt and enjoyed by this country, while every other nation in the world beheld with aſtoniſhment and admiration the repeated exertions which produced them. It ſeemed that we were to forego every idea of an invaſion of this country, and therefore we had an opportunity of attending to minute œconomy. He hoped the Committee would not be ſo unmanly as to give way to that idea; he ſaid 'unmanly,' for he knew of nothing more unmanly than to catch at ſucceſs, and to neglect all future exertion as unneceſſary. Undoubtedly nothing could excel, indeed hitherto nothing had equalled the ſplendour of our ſucceſſes; they would indeed in former times, and under former circumſtances, have terminated any conteſt; but what ſucceſſes, what triumphs, what glory of her enemy could affect the diſpoſition of that nation whoſe rulers count as nothing the intereſt, the treaſure, or even the blood of their ſubjects. Therefore, with the beſt wiſhes for œconomy, he could not indulge a hope of carrying it farther than it could be accompanied by prudence. We had had to deal, we have to deal yet, with an enemy of whoſe character it may at leaſt be ſaid, they are not limited by any rule of law, of juſtice, or prudence, or by any of the maxims that are ſuppoſed to govern, or to have at any time governed, the policy of thoſe ſtates which are called regulated monarchies, for they had hitherto been totally uncontrouled by remorſe, compunction, prudence, or humanity. They have ſhewn a readineſs to hazard their own exiſtence for the

the bare chance of deſtroying this country, or indeed of overturning the liberty of other nations. But becauſe they are at preſent diſcomfited in their ſcheme at the Nile, and becauſe that expedition has turned out to be a diſaſter, and has reduced them to a temporary confuſion, yet they might not have given up all ideas of invaſion on this country; and ſhould they entertain ſuch a thought, how wild and chimerical ſoever it may be, yet it would gain force in their minds, and add vigour to their projects, if they ſaw this country, day after day weakening that force, which, while it is entire, will remain invulnerable. He was therefore moſt clearly of opinion, that we ſhould encreaſe, inſtead of leſſening our efforts. He then proceeded to take notice of ſome of the heads of the eſtimates before the Committee. He ſaid, by a little more attention to it, Gentlemen muſt perceive that the difference aroſe from the expence attending the ſupplementary militia, which in the former eſtimates was made out only for half a year. There is therefore no real encreaſe in the expence, but only appears ſuch, becauſe it is now made permanent and computed for the full year. The other encreaſe ariſes from a great force, eſpecially fencibles, being ſent to Ireland. They were ordered thither in the end of ſpring, and the militia, for the moſt part, not till the ſummer was far advanced, and nearly about the cloſe of the laſt ſeſſion of Parliament. Beſides, the regiments now propoſed to be raiſed were not new regiments, but ſome that were filled up, and were therefore now brought upon the eſtimate of 1799. The reſolutions were then put and agreed to, and the report ordered for Tueſday.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

VOTE OF THANKS TO LORD NELSON.

Nov. 21. *Lord Spencer* ſaid it was with peculiar ſatisfaction that he roſe to call upon their Lordſhips to paſs a vote of thanks to the gallant Lord Nelſon, for his victory over the French fleet in the Mediterranean, for a more glorious victory did not grace the Britiſh annals; nor were the advantages likely to be derived from his brilliant ſucceſs of leſs importance to the public; therefore, without feeling it neceſſary to dwell for any length of time, to prevail on their Lordſhips to agree with him in his motion, he ſhould move, "That the thanks of this Houſe be given to the Right Hon. Lord Nelſon, for his very meritorious conduct in the ſignal victory obtained by him over the French fleet in the Mediterranean; and that the thanks of that Houſe be alſo given to the officers, ſailors, and marines, who ſerved under his Lordſhip upon that glorious occaſion."

Lord Hood—I cannot content myſelf with giving a ſilent vote for the motion which the Noble Earl at the head of the naval department has, with ſuch attention to tranſcendent merit, made. This victory, undoubtedly, my Lords, is the moſt compleat and ſplendid that hiſtory can record, and, in its conſequence, muſt prove highly beneficial and important not only to Great Britain, but to mankind. It may be truely ſaid, that the Noble Lord has preſerved from anarchy, diſtreſs, and miſery, three-fourths of the world. No officer, I will be bold to ſay, ever more highly merited the gracious notice of his Sovereign, and that of his country; and I ſhould have been greatly gratified had his honours been carried higher. Impreſſed, therefore, as I am, with the very diſtinguiſhed and meritorious ſervices of Lord Nelſon, as well as with the ſpirited and gallant conduct of the Captains, officers, and men he had the honour to command, it is with infinite ſatisfaction I ſhall give my cordial vote for the motion now before your Lordſhips; and with equal pleaſure I ſhall give it alſo for thoſe the Noble Earl will follow it with.

Lord Minto went into a general panegyric on the talents of the Noble Admiral, which he ſaid, he perſonally knew to be no leſs qualified for political emergencies than for thoſe of danger; he inſtanced the various occaſions on which he had ſignalized himſelf during the preſent war, and feeling their beneficial conſequences were incalculable, he moſt cheerfully concurred in the vote of thanks which was now propoſed to be given to him.

The Duke of Clarence declared, that, in his opinion, the conduct of the Noble Admiral upon the occaſion al-

alluded to, was too meritorious for any naval man to be contented with giving it a ſilent vote; he was gratified in the opportunity of bearing public teſtimony of the merit of the action, and of the advantages that were likely to accrue from it.

The queſtion was then put, and the motion was unanimouſly agreed to.

Lord Spencer, after ſhortly ſtating his high ſenſe of the ſervices performed off the coaſt of Ireland, made a ſimilar motion, "That the thanks of this Houſe be given to Sir John Borlaſe Warren, and to the officers, ſailors, and marines ſerving under him, for their conduct in defeating the French fleet off the coaſt of Ireland;" which alſo paſſed unanimouſly.

Their Lordſhips then proceeded to St James's with their addreſs to his Majeſty, and adjourned the Houſe till Wedneſday next.

MONTHLY REGISTER.

GAZETTE INTELLIGENCE.

Admiralty Office, Nov. 23.

Letters, of which the following are an extract and copy, have been received at this office.

Extract of a letter from Capt. Samuel Hood, of his Majeſty's ſhip Zealous, to Rear-Admiral Lord Nelſon, K. B. dated off Alexandria, Sept. 19.

I ſhould have diſpatched the Emerald to you on the 2d inſtant, agreeably to your orders; but knowing the French had poſſeſſion of Damietta, alſo having information they had ſome veſſels likely to ſail from thence, I directed Capt. Hope, in the Alcmene, to proceed off the place with the Fortune Polacre, and endeavour to deſtroy any veſſels he might fall in with, that were belonging to, or aſſiſting the enemy.

On the 2d inſt. his Majeſty's ſhips Seahorſe and Emerald chaced in ſhore, where ſhe anchored near the town of the Arabs, the French gun boat (aviſo) L'Anemone, commanded by Enſigne de Vaiſſeau Garbon, of four guns and ſixty-two men, having on board General Camin and Citoyen Valette, Aid-de-Camp to General Buonaparte, with diſpatches from Toulon, which place they left the 27th July, and Malta the 26th Auguſt. On the approach of the boats of our ſhips ſhe fired on them, cut her cable, and ran in ſhore into the breakers. General Camin and Aid-de-Camp Valette, having landed with the diſpatches, and the whole of the crew, were immediately attacked by the Arabs. The two former and ſome others making reſiſtance, were killed, and all the reſt ſtripped of their cloaths. Her commander and a few of the men, about ſeven, made their eſcape naked to the beach, where our boats had by this time arrived, and begged on their knees to be ſaved. I am happy in ſaying the humanity of our people extended ſo far as to ſwim on ſhore with lines and ſmall caſks to ſave them, which they fortunately effected. Amongſt theſe was particularly diſtinguiſhed a young gentleman, midſhipman of the Emerald, who brought off the commander, Garbon, at the hazard of his life, through the ſurf.

Alcmene off Damietta, Sept. 24.

SIR, I have the honour of informing you, that I arrived yeſterday off Damietta, and, purſuant to your orders, cut out all the veſſels that were anchored in that road, being eight in number, loaded with wine and other neceſſaries for the French army. I am, &c. GEORGE HOPE.

To Samuel Hood, Eſq; Captain of his Majeſty's ſhip Zealous.

Downing Street, December 23.

Captain Gifford, firſt Aid-de-Camp to General the Honourable Charles Stewart, arrived this afternoon at the office of the Right Honourable Henry Dundas, one of his Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State, with a diſpatch from the General, of which the following is a copy.

SIR, *Ciudadella, Nov. 18.*

I have the honour to acquaint you, that his Majeſty's forces are in poſſeſſion of the iſland of Minorca, without having ſuſtained the loſs of ſingle man.

As neither Commodore Duckworth or myſelf could procure any uſeful in-

formation relative to the object of the expedition, at Gibralter, is was judged adviſeable to diſpatch the Peterell ſloop of war to cruize off the harbour of Mahon for intelligence; where, after remaining a few days, ſhe joined the fleet under the Colombrites, without having made any eſſential diſcoveryt So circumſtanced, it was agreed to attempt a deſcent in the Bay of Addaya, and the wind proving favourable on the 7th inſt. a feint was made by the line of battle ſhips at Fornelles, and boats were aſſembled for that purpoſe under the direction of Captain Bowen, Captain Polden, and Captain Preſsland. Previous to the landing of the troops, a ſmall battery at the entrance of the Bay was evacuated, the magazine blown up, the guns ſpiked, and ſhortly after the firſt diviſion, conſiſting of eight hundred men, was on ſhore. A conſiderable exploſion to the weſtward indicated that the Spaniards had alſo abandoned the works at Fornelles. Nearly at the ſame moment two thouſand of the enemy's troops approached in ſeveral different directions, and threatened to ſurround this inconſiderable force, but were repulſed with ſome loſs on the left, while the guns of the Argo checked a ſimilar attempt on the right flank, and the poſt was maintained until the debarkation of the different diviſions afforded the means of eſtabliſhing a poſition, from whence the enemy's troops would have been attacked with conſiderable advantage, had they not retired in the beginning of the night.

The ſtrength of the ground, the paſſes, and the badneſs of the roads in Minorca, are ſcarcely to be equalled in the moſt mountainous parts of Europe; and what increaſed the difficulty of advancing upon this occaſion, was the dearth of intelligence; for although near a 100 deſerters had come in from the Swiſs regiments, and affirmed that the remaining force upon the iſland exceeded 4000 men, no particular account of the enemy's movements was obtained. Under this uncertainty it was for a few minutes doubtful what meaſure to purſue, but as quickly determined to proceed by a forced march to Mercadal, and thereby ſeparate the enemy's force by poſſeſſing that eſſential paſs. In the firſt inſtance, and from thence advancing upon his principal communications to either extremity of the iſland; juſtly depending upon Commodore Duckworth's zeal and exertions to forward upon Addaya and Fornelles ſuch ſupplies of proviſions and ordnance ſtores as might favour ſubſequent operations.

To effect this object, Colonel Graham was ſent with ſix hundred men, and, by great exertion, arrived at Mercadal a very few hours after the main force of the enemy had marched towards Cuitadella, making ſeveral officers and ſoldiers priſoners, ſeizing various ſmall magazines, and eſtabliſhing his corps in front of the village.

The perſevering labour of two hundred and fifty ſeamen, under directions of Lieutenant Buchanan, during the night, having greatly aſſiſted the artillery in forwarding the battalion guns, the army arrived at Mercadal on the 9th, where learning that Mahon was nearly evacuated, a diſpoſition was inſtantly made to operate with the whole force in that direction, and Colonel Paget detached, under this movement, with three hundred men to take poſſeſſion of the town. Upon his arrival he ſummoned Fort Charles to ſurrender, and made the Lieutenant-Governor of the iſland, a Colonel of artillery, and one hundred and ſixty men priſoners of war, removed the boom obſtructing the entrance of the harbour, and gave free paſſage to the Cormorant and Aurora frigates, which were previouſly ſent by Commodore Duckworth to make a diverſion off that port. But theſe were not the only advantages immediately reſulting from this movement; it favoured deſertion, intercepted all ſtragglers, and enabled the different departments of the army to procure beaſts of burden for the further progreſs of his Majeſty's arms.

Having aſcertained that the enemy's troops were throwing up works and entrenching themſelves in front of Ciudadella, it was reſolved to force their poſition on the night of the 13th inſt. and preparatory to this attempt, Colonel Paget with 200 men was withdrawn from Mahon; Colonel Moncrief ſent forward with the detachment to Ferarias; three light twelve pounders and and five and a half inch howitzers, and ninety marines landed from the fleet; when, in conſequence of its having been communicated to Commodore Duck-

Duckworth, that four ships, supposed of the line, were seen between Majorco and Minorca, steering towards the last mentioned island, he decided to pursue them, requested that the seamen and marines might re-embark, and signified his determination of proceeding with all the armed transports to sea: But weighing the serious consequences which would result to the army from the smallest delay on the one hand, and the advantages to be reasonably expected from a spirited attack on the other, it was thought adviseable to retain them with the army; and, on the 12th inst. the whole force marched to Alpiuz, and from thence proceeded on the 13th to Jupet, Colonel Moncrief's detachment moving in a parallel line on the Ferarias road to Mala Garaba. These precautions, and the appearance of two columns approaching the town, induced the enemy to retire from their half constructed defences within the walls of Ciudadella; and in the evening of the same day, a small detachment under Captain Muter was sent to take possession of the Torre den Quart, whereby the army was enabled to advance on the 14th, apparently in three columns, upon Kane's, the Ferarias, and Fornelles roads, to the investment of the town at day-break, occupying ground covered by the position the enemy had relinquished: Thus stationed, in want of heavy artillery, and every article necessary for a siege, it was judged expedient to summon the Governor of Minorca to surrender; and the preliminary articles were immediately considered; but doubts arising on the part of the enemy, whether the inverting force was superior in number to the garrison, two batteries of three twelve-pounders, and three five and a half inch howitzers, were erected in the course of the following night, within eight hundred yards of the place, and at day-break the main body of the troops formed in order of battle considerably to the right of Kane's road, leaving the piequets to communicate between them and Colonel Moncrief's post. This line, partly real and partly imaginary, extended four miles in front of the enemy's batteries, from whence two eighteen pound shot were immediately fired at the troops; but a timely parley, and the distant appearance of the squadron, occasioned the cessation of hostilities, and renewed a negociation, which, through the address of Major General Sir James St Clair Erskine, terminated in the annexed capitulation.

Four weeks salt provisions for the garrison, besides the inclosed list of ordnance stores, were found in the town of Ciudadella.

The assistance received from Commodore Duckworth, in forwarding the light artillery and provisions, greatly facilitated the rapid movements of the army; and I am happy in the opportunity of declaring my obligations to Lord Mark Kerr and Captain Caulfield, for the supplies they sent from Mahon, and their exertions to land two mortars, which, in the event of further resistence, might have proved of the utmost importance in securing the army, or compelling the enemy to surrender.

The support I have experienced from Major General Sir James St Clair Erskine, Brigadiers General Stuart and Oakes, the exertion of Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart, my Adjutant General, the zeal, spirit, and perseverance of both the officers and men of the different regiments under my command, have eminently contributed to the success of the expedition, and authorise me to represent their services as highly deserving his Majesty's most gracious approbation.

Captain Gifford, my First Aide-de-Camp, who is perfectly acquainted with every circumstance concerning the capitulation of Ciudadella, and the reduction of the island of Minorca, will have the honour of delivering this dispatch. I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. STUART.

The Right Hon. Henry Dundas.

[Follows the terms of capitulation, and a list of ordnance stores taken.]

Copy of an embarkation return delivered by his Excellency Don Juan Nepomuseno de Quesada, to his Excellency General the Honourable Charles Stuart, Commander in Chief of the British forces in the island of Minorca.

General state of the Spanish troops who are to embark for the evacuation of this island.

153 officers.

3528 sergeants, drummers, rank and file.

56 horses.

General Staff 16, including 1 Governor, 1 Lieutenant-Governor, 1 Major-General, &c. &c.

(Signed) PEDRO QUADRADO.
Major-General.

Ciudadella, November 17- 1798.

I certify the above to be a true copy; and that ſince the landing of the Britiſh forces, and previous to the ſurrender of Ciudadella on the 16th inſtant, nearly three hundred deſerters have come over to the Britiſh army.

RD. STEWART, Agent General.

N. B. The corps compoſing the Spaniſh force in this iſland are as follows: viz. Regiment of Valencia, 3 battalions, Swiſs regiment of Ruttiman, 2 battalions, Swiſs regiment of Yann, 1 battalion, a detachment of the dragoons of Numancia, and a detachment of artillery.

[This Gazette alſo contains copy of a letter from Commodore Duckworth, with other documents relating to the conqueſt of Minorca, which, being too long for inſertion in this number, will be given at length in the Appendix.]

Admiralty Office, Dec. 25.

Copy of a Letter from Admiral Earl St Vincent, K. B. Commander in Chief of his Majeſty's ſhips and veſſels in the Mediterranean, to Evan Nepean, Eſq; dated on board Le Souverain, Nov. 27.

Herewith you will receive the copy of a letter from Rear-Admiral Lord Nelſon, incloſing one from Capt. Ball, of his Majeſty's ſhip Alexander, with the capitulation of the iſland of Goza.

Vanguard, at ſea, Nov. 1.

MY LORD, I have the honour to tranſmit you a letter received from Capt. Ball, dated October 30, together with the capitulation of the Caſtle of Goza, and a liſt of ordnance, &c. found in it; the priſoners are now embarked in the Vanguard and Minotaur, till I can get a veſſel to ſend them to France. Capt. Ball, with three ſail of the line, a frigate, and fireſhip, is entruſted with the blockade of Malta, in which are two ſail of the line and three frigates ready for ſea; and from the experience I have had of Capt. Ball's zeal, activity, and ability, I have no doubt but that in due time I ſhall have the honour of ſending you a good account of the French in the town of Valetti. I am, with the greateſt reſpect, your Lordſhip's moſt obedient ſervant,

HORATIO NELSON.

Alexander, off Malta, Oct. 30.

SIR, I have the honour to acquaint you, that the commandant of the French troops in the Caſtle of Goza, ſigned the capitulation of the 28th inſt. which you had approved. I ordered Capt. Creſwell, of the marines, to take poſſeſſion of it in the name of his Britannic Majeſty, and his Majeſty's colours were hoiſted. The next day the place was delivered up in form to the deputies of the iſland, his Sicilian Majeſty's colours hoiſted, and he acknowledged to be their lawful ſovereign.

I embarked yeſterday all the French officers and men who were in the iſland of Goza, amounting to 217.

I incloſe the articles of capitulation, and an inventory of the arms and ammunition found in the caſtle, part of which I directed to be ſent to the aſſiſtance of the Malteſe, who are in arms againſt the French. There were 3200 ſacks of corn in the caſtle, which will be a great relief to the inhabitants, who are much in want of that article.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) ALEX. JOHN BALL.

Rear Admiral Sir Horatio Nelſon.

[Follows the articles of capitulation, and a long liſt of ſtores taken.]

Captures.

L'Hirondel of 20 guns, by the Ambuſcade.

La Reſolue privateer of 18 guns, by the Phæton.

La Fulminante cutter, by the L'Eſpoir.

Grimaldi, Spaniſh packet of 2 guns, Preſident Parker privateer of 12 guns, L'Eſperance privateer of one gun, and Le Baret privateer of 10 guns, by the Flora and Caroline.

Calaiſen lugger of 4 guns, by the Badger revenue cutter.

L'Adolphe privateer of 6 guns, by the El Corſo.

Invincible Buonaparte privateer of 20 guns, by the Boadicea.

Le Cantabre privateer of 14 guns, by the Cambrian.

Le Reſource privateer of 10 guns, by the Phæton.

La Buonaparte of 8 guns, L'Amazone of 10 guns, La Sauveur of 4 guns, La Fortune of 2 guns, by the Concorde and Lapwing.

The Invariable ſchooner of 4 guns, by the Lapwing.

La

La 10th Aout brig of 22 guns, by the Bittern.

L'Intrepid brig of 14 guns, by the Matilda.

Scevola sloop of 10 guns, by the Pearl.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

AMERICA.

The following notice appeared in the London Gazette. Philadelphia, Nov. 4. The contagion which has for the last three months raged so violently in this city, has, as heretofore, yielded at length to a succession of frost which has prevailed during the last week, and the committee of health has invited the inhabitants to return to their homes, under an assurance of perfect safety, under proper precautions as to cleansing and airing their houses, bedding, and clothing. The coldness of the season has worked the same happy change in New York, Boston, New London, and Wilmington, where the same species of disease raged at the same time, and proved infinitely more malignant than the former diseases with which those places have been visited.—From various letters it appears, that in one instance 118 died in Philadelphia in the space of 24 hours; and that between 40 and 50 thousand inhabitants had left the place: That at New York upwards of 5000 persons had fallen victims to the fever, amongst whom were several of the principal physicians.

WEST INDIES.

The English forces, after holding for a considerable time a few ports in the island of St Domingo, have at length quitted that destructive island. This evacuation has been followed by circumstances which afford a field for much conjecture; two proclamations in a considerable degree contradictory have been published, the one by the directorial commissioner and the other by the black general Toussaint. The former has since been dismissed by the latter, who has declared St Domingo an independent state! The private arrangement made a long time since between Toussaint and the English general, by virtue of which the British troops effected their evacuation, are brought forward as probabilities of his treachery.

HAMBURGH.

The famous Napper Tandy, having been driven by adverse weather from the coast of Ireland to Norway, and fearing thence to proceed to France by sea, travelled it perhaps to Hamburgh, in company with three of his companions, who were likewise United Irishmen. Sir J. Crawford, the British minister, apprized of their arrival under fictitious names, obtained, with much difficulty, an order from the magistracy for their arrest, which he effected at six o'clock in the morning, of the 24th of November, and ordered them to be confined in separate guard-houses. As soon as this event however became public, citizens Marragon, the minister of the French Republic, dispatched a note to the senate, claiming Napper Tandy and his colleagues as French citizens, and threatening to quit Hamburgh if they were not released. The British minister on the other hand, opposed this demand in terms equally strong, and the senate, after mature deliberation, set free Tandy and Blackwell, as soldiers of France. It is said, that the Hamburghers, to free themselves from the embarrassment this affair was likely to involve them in, have referred the claims of the two ministers to the decision of the King of Prussia, as Umpire in the business.

GERMANY.

The negociations at Rastadt are still proceeding, but with a tardy pace; some attribute the present delay to arrangements being about to take place for forming a general congress. The French deputies at that place have, however, consented to pay the public debts of the *communes* situated on the left banks of the Rhine, which are computed at 166,000,000 livres Tournois. They insist on the Germans, who have emigrated from the *united countries*, being treated as French emigrants. The answer of the French ministers, in regard to the island of Buderich, *Elsfleth Tell*, and Ehrenbreitstein, is merely negative.

ITALY.

The government of Naples has, for some time continued the most active preparations of war, and to succour the enemies of France in the most open and avowed manner. About the end

end of October the Roman conſuls publiſhed a paper at Rome, which may be called the manifeſto of that republic againſt the king of the Two Sicilies. It is directed to the commiſſioners of the French republic, and charges his Sicilian Majeſty with fomenting ſedition in the Roman republic, which he ſeeks to ſmother in her cradle; they add, that he pays the rebels, he applauds their crimes, and ſends them officers.

The French General Championet, who commanded in the Roman territory, was attacked on all points on the 23d of November, by the Neapolitan troops under the command of General Mack; and as the force of the enemy was ſuperior to theirs, they were under the neceſſity of an immediate retreat. After this tranſaction General Championet wrote to inform General Mack that ſuch conduct required on his part a candid explanation, which he demanded at his hands. He deſired him to conſider that peace prevailed between the French republic and the Court of Naples; and that the Ambaſſadors of the two governments reſide conſtantly at Paris and at Naples to adjuſt any difference that might ariſe between the two reſpective ſtates.

The reply of General Mack was honeſt and candid at leaſt. He ſtated that the army of his Sicilian majeſty under his command had paſſed the frontiers in order to take poſſeſſion of the Roman territory, which had been revolutionized and uſurped ſince the peace of Campo Formio, and that the new republic never had been acknowledged by his Sicilian Majeſty, nor by his auguſt ally the Emperor and King.

Theſe proceedings were tranſmitted in a meſſage from the executive directory on the 6th of December, to the two legiſlative councils. On the ſame day the council of five hundred, agreeable to the 335th article of the conſtitution, reſolved itſelf into a Committee. The meſſage and papers which accompanied it being read, the council adopted a reſolution, declaring war againſt the *King of Naples* and the *King of Sardinia;* and this reſolution was confirmed by the council of elders.

TURKEY.

By intelligence from Conſtantinople, dated the 25th of October, it appears that the Ottoman Porte, was making great preparations in conjunction with the Ruſſian and Engliſh ſhips in thoſe ſeas, to attack General Buonaparte. From the ſame authority it is ſaid, that the inſurrection of Paſwan Oglou, aſſumes daily, a more formidable aſpect. Advice had at that time been received, that the Pacha Muſtapha had declared himſelf Governor of Belgrade, independent of the Porte, whoſe authority he had ſet at defiance, in conſequence of which, and ſome other untavourable circumſtances, all converſation reſpecting the operation of the Rebels or the French, was prohibited in that capital.

EGYPT.

Dec. 6. Intelligence of an important event, viz. the aſſaſſination of Buonaparte, was received at Lord Grenville's Office from Sir Morton Eden, his Majeſty's Ambaſſador at the Court of Vienna, to whom it was communicated on the 3d inſtant by Baron Thugut. The account was received at Conſtantinople on the 17th of November, by ſeven different meſſengers from Egypt, and immediately forwarded by the Imperial Miniſter at the Ottoman Porte. It appears, that Buonaparte, being appriſed of the rapid approaches of Mourad Bey, Ibrahim Bey, and Pacha Gaza, from Upper Egypt and Syria, called a Council of War, conſiſting not only of all his own officers, but the chiefs of thoſe countries which he had organized, and the miniſters reſident at Grand Cairo, for the purpoſe of deliberating upon the beſt means of oppoſing the formidable armies which were on their march againſt that city, and alſo of ſupplying his troops with the neceſſary ſupplies of proviſions. The general having opened the buſineſs in due form, the Envoy from the Bey of Syrian Tripoli immediately roſe, and pulling a loaded piſtol from his girdle, ſhot the Republican Chief dead upon the ſpot. —The French officers preſent, furiouſly indignant at the outrage, threatened inſtant deſtruction of the city. The exulting natives, however, to whom the report of the piſtol ſerved as a ſignal to commence the attack, reſolved to be before hand with the enemy in the dreadful work of human ſlaughter, and accordingly proceeded without delay to murder every French ſoldier that came

in

in their way; great numbers of whom, including two generals, had fallen victims to their rage.

A demi official note, to the foregoing effect, was handed about in the Houſes of Lords and Commons. The Eaſt India Company likewiſe put forth a paper, ſaid to be received from their agent at Conſtantinople, ſtating that Buonaparte and his principal officers were killed in the town-houſe of Cairo, whilſt he was giving orders for levying a new contribution, and that the armies were afterwards diſperſed with great ſlaughter.

31. Conſiderable doubt, however, ſtill hangs over this intelligence.

IRELAND.

The following ſtate priſoners have been informed, by order of the Lord Lieutenant, that circumſtances had occurred to require their longer confinement: viz. Arthur O'Connor, E. Emmet, John Sweetman, Henry Jackſon, Doctor M'Niven, John Chambers, Samuel Nicilſon, Thomas Ruſſel, Matthew Dowling, J. Sweeny, D. Wilſon, Miles Duſgnam, J. Cuthbert, J. Cormick, Dean Swift. Notice was at the ſame time given to all other perſons included in the bill of emigration, that they were at liberty to go to any part of the continent of Europe not at war with his Majeſty, and that if they did not depart by the 5th of January next, they muſt continue in priſon at their own expence.

The project of a Union, ſo much ſpoken of, ſeems to be diſapproved by a ſtrong party. The lawyers' corps in particular, in a public meeting held on the 6th of December, expreſſed their diſlike of that meaſure in ſeveral ſtrong reſolutions, which were propoſed upon that occaſion. The impropriety, however, of any kind of diſcuſſion, by an armed body, being ſuggeſted, the reſolutions were withdrawn; and it was agreed, that the buſineſs ſhould devolve on a general meeting of barriſters, which was held in the courſe of a few days afterwards, and reſolutions entered into againſt the propoſed union.

LONDON.

The Preſident of the Court Martial held on Captain Thomſon, after the ſentence was read, addreſſed him nearly as follows: "Captain Thompſon, I feel the moſt lively pleaſure in returning you the ſword with which you have ſo bravely maintained the honour of your King and Country; the more ſo, as I am convinced, that, when you are again called upon to draw it in their defence, you will add freſh laurels to the wreath which you have already ſo nobly won." The thanks of the Court were alſo given to Sir Edward Berry, who was preſent on this occaſion, for the gallant and active zeal he manifeſted, by giving his aſſiſtance on board the Leander, in the combat with the Genereux.

Dec. 6. On Thurſday evening one Bembridge, a young man reſiding at Dartmouth, who had for ſome time paſt diſcovered an attachment to Miſs Ruſſell, daughter to Mr Ruſſel, of that place, went to Mr Ruſſell's houſe about nine o'clock, entered the room where the family was ſitting, and expreſſed a wiſh to ſpeak to Miſs Ruſſell. This Mrs Ruſſel refuſed, and expreſſed her diſpleaſure at his attention to her daughter. This the villian probably expected, for, having provided himſelf with a long butcher's knife, he took an opportunity immediately after, and buried it with the moſt ſavage violence in the boſom of the unfortunate girl, who almoſt inſtantly expired. The wretch then ſtabbed himſelf in two places, but not mortally. Aſſiſtance was called; he was immediately taken into cuſtody, and will doubtleſs ſuffer the proper vengeance of the law for his diabolical atrocity.

The ſum which was received by the commiſſioners for reducing the national debt, in the 49th quarter, ending the laſt day of October was £ 958,256 18 0½
The ſtock purchaſed with that ſum 1,899,637 0 0

The whole ſtock bought up in the 49 quarters amounted to 35,151,930 0 0
The cath paid 26,621,934 3 0

7. The Coloſſus man of war, of 74 guns, having under her convoy 8 veſſels from Liſbon, parted her cables, in a ſevere ſtorm, off Scilly, and went to the bottom; only one life was loſt.

8. The Henry Addington, outward bound Eaſt Indiaman, came on ſhore on Bembridge Ledge, Iſle of Wight.

She was laden with naval ſtores, and 242,000l. in dollars; part of the ſtores, and all the dollars ſaved; the ſhip ſince gone to pieces, five of the hands periſhed.

9. At a General Court held at the Eaſt India houſe, it was reſolved to grant a penſion of 1500l. to Lord Hobart, during the term of the Company's excluſive charter.

18. The Marquis of Abercorn, who laid his damages at 20,000l. againſt Captain Copley, for criminal converſation with the Marchioneſs his wife, obtained a verdict in the Sheriff's court for 10,000l. The Captain had previouſly ſuffered judgement to go by default; and, on the preſent occaſion, the aſſeſſment of damages was the only queſtion before the court. Several noblemen were called to prove the charge of adultery; who ſtated that Captain Copley was brother-in-law to the Marquis, being brother to his firſt wife; that he lived under the Marquis' roof and protection from the age of 13 till he was 28 years old, and was treated by him as if he was his own child. The Duke of Leeds in particular declared, that he took the Ducheſs to Lord Abercorn's houſe the more frequently, as he thought the Marquis and Marchioneſs were a pattern of conjugal affection and love. Mr Conſt, on on the part of Captain Copley, called Lord George Seymour and Mr Broadhead, jun. to prove the early attachment of Captain Copley for the Marchioneſs; that his paſſion for her became ſo violent, that he went abroad and returned to England only in conſequence of being recalled as an officer; in ſhort, that he did every thing which depended on man to obliterate his affection for her, until he renewed his acquaintance, on his return to England. He ſaid, Capt. Copley's fortune was very ſmall, his commiſſion being only worth 1400l. and his patrimonial eſtate 120l. a-year; that it was impoſſible therefore, he could pay heavy damages. The jury then awarded the above ſum to the Marquis.

EDINBURGH.

Nov. 28. This day the Lord Provoſt, Magiſtrates, and Council of Edinburgh, preſented the Rev. Dr Baird, principal of the Univerſity, to be one of the miniſters of the New North Church, in room of the late Dr Hardy; and the Rev. Mr Inglis, at Tippermuir, to be miniſter of the New Gray Friars Church, in place of Dr Baird.

A conſiderable number of French priſoners lately made their eſcape from the Caſtle; a good many have been retaken.

29. This day being appointed for a general thankſgiving to Almighty God for our glorious victories, and the comparatively happy ſituation Britain at preſent enjoys, the ſame was obſerved accordingly, and ſuitable diſcourſes preached at the different churches and chapels. The volunteers of this city attended divine ſervice in the different churches in full uniform. The amount of the collection made at the different churches and chapels, for behoof of the Charity Workhouſe, was 229l. 14s. 9¼d.

The Commiſſion of the laſt General Aſſembly have unanimouſly agreed to grant the petition of a number of inhabitants of Rotheſay, for receiving a houſe lately built there for public worſhip, as a Chapel of Eaſe in communion with the Church of Scotland; and certain regulations for the management of the ſame appointed, ſimilar to thoſe laid down by the General Aſſembly for other chapels.

3. On Sunday night St Peter's Chapel, Drummond ſtreet, was broke into, and a conſiderable ſum of money, collected for the poor, was carried off, beſides ſome prayer-books, &c. Part of the books have ſince been found laid down in a coach entry adjacent to the chapel. —Same night a ſhop in the New Town was broken into, and about 30s. carried off.

At a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Free Maſons held at Edinburgh, it was unanimouſly reſolved to have an elegant hall built for the accommodation of the Brethren. A committee was immediately appointed for carrying the deſign into execution.

20. This day the non commiſſioned officers and privates of the Irvine volunteers, preſented William Ralſton, Eſq; their late Major-Commandant, a Silver Cup, with an inſcription thereon, expreſſive of their unfeigned eſteem and affection, and of their approbation of his military talents, good conduct, and prudent behaviour, during the time they had the honour to be commanded by him.

The Selkirkſhire troop of Gentlemen Yeomanry, commanded by James Pringle of Torwoodlee, Eſq; as a mark of their reſpect for Captain Pringle, have voted a handſome piece of plate to be preſented to him.

The Earl of Newburgh has received a grant from the Crown of certain manors in Scotland, belonging to his anceſtors previous to the rebellion in 1715.

The following procedure of the Preſbytery of Edinburgh was inſerted in the different newſpapers from authority: On the 27th, the Preſbytery, after obſerving the uſual forms, reſolved, that the admiſſion of Dr Baird to be one of the miniſters of the New North Church here, in room of the late Dr Hardy, ſhould take place on the 10th of January next, Dr Gloag to preach and preſide.—Thereafter a letter to the moderator from Mr Greville Ewing was read, ſtating that he thought it his duty to decline being any longer conſidered a miniſter of the church of Scotland, and requeſting the Preſbytery to accept his reſignation of the charge he held as one of the miniſters of Lady Glenorchy's Chapel. The Preſbytery accepted ſaid reſignation, and declared that Mr Ewing is no longer a member of this church.—Alſo a letter from Dr Greenfield was laid before the Preſbytery, by which he reſigned into the hands of the Preſbytery, his office as one of the miniſters of the High Church, and his character as a Miniſter of the Goſpel. The Preſbytery accepted Dr Greenfield's reſignation of the ſaid office; and in conſequence of certain flagrant reports concerning his conduct, which his deſertion of his charge, and his quitting his country, ſeemed to preclude the Preſbytery from conſidering as groundleſs, they unanimouſly depoſed him from the office of the holy miniſtry, and laid him under a ſentence of excommunication.

TILL the 24th, the month of December was pretty mild, and often ſhowery; the froſt then commenced, and to the end, there have been conſtant alternations of froſt and thaw. On the 25th, 26th, and 27th, a conſiderable quantity of ſnow fell: It came from the ſouth-eaſt, and lay in ſome places from two to three feet deep; but it only lay a few days. On the 28th, in the morning, the thermometer ſtood at 14°, which is the loweſt point it has reached this year. The general range at noon, during the month, has been from 32° to 42°. The operations of the huſbandman have been ſuſpended during the greater part of the month.—The markets have been very abundantly ſupplied with vivres of all kinds. Beſt beef and mutton 4d. and 4½d.; beſt veal, 7d.; beſt pork, 6d. per lb. Haddocks and cod have been moderate in price; ſalmon, 1s. 4d. Herrings, ſixteen for a penny.

The Engliſh report ſtates, that the alternations of froſt and thaw, in the beginning of the month, did not much impede the general buſineſs of the huſbandman; but the ſeverity of the latter part has put a ſtop to ſome of his operations. The wheats that have been ſown this year not having, till the preſent period, met with any very material check, look remarkably well. Turnips, we believe, have not yet received any very ſerious injury. In ſome places, however, they have been nearly fed off, and in others they are much employed in fattening neat cattle and ſheep. They are advancing much in price, and the ſeverity of the weather at this time muſt, we apprehend, raiſe them ſtill higher, as well as do them damage in other reſpects. In the northern diſtricts, as well as ſome of the more ſouthern ones, we find there is plenty of fit ſtock, and that butcher's meat is reaſonable in price. Lean cattle do not ſeem to advance much, though the demand for them is ſomewhat increaſed. Flour averages 40s. 9¾d. Wheat 48s. 4d. Barley 29s. 8d. Oats 19s. 7d. In Smithfield market, beef fetches from 2s. 10d. to 4s. 6d. Mutton 3s. to 4s. Veal 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d. and Pork 2s. 8d. to 3s. 4d. Horſes employed in farming buſineſs are ſtill low.

LISTS.

MARRIAGES.

At Doncaſter, T. R. Stewart, M. D. to Miſs Rutter, daughter of Lowther Rutter, Eſq.

Nov. 20. At Dunfermline, the Rev. Mr Thomas Adamſon, preacher of the goſpel, to Miſs Elizabeth Mackie, Dunfermline.

22. At

22. At Harvieſton, Mr Young Trotter, to Miſs Jane Cranſtoun, daughter of George Cranſtoun of Dewar, Eſq.

— At Edinburgh, John Smith Bradſhaw, Eſq; to Miſs Ogilvy, daughter of Sir John Ogilvy, Bart.

27. Roderick M'Kenzie, Eſq; of Glack, to Miſs Chriſtian Niven, daughter of John Niven, Eſq; of Peebles.

30. James Bruce, Eſq; Lieutenant Governor of Dominica, to Miſs Margaret Thomſon, daughter of John Thomſon, of Spring Gardens, Eſq.

— Mr David Wight of Ormiſton, to Miſs Elizabeth Wight, daughter of Mr Robert Wight of Murrays.

Dec. 3. At Dumfries, Mr Robert Spalding, writer, to Miſs Clugſton, of that place.

— At Edinburgh, Mr James Macfarlane, ſurgeon, to Miſs Watſon, daughter of the late Capt. Andrew Watſon, 27th foot.

4. At Leith, Robert Fullerton, Eſq; to Miſs Milne, daughter of Mr Alexander Milne, merchant, Leith.

— At Perth, Mr John Roſs, merchant, to Miſs Helen Faichney, daughter of the late Wm Faichney, Eſq; of Ardargie.

— Mr John Murray, at Ladykirk, to Miſs Home, daughter of the Rev. Robert Home, miniſter of Polwarth.

5. At Edinburgh, the Rev. Alexander Brunton, to Miſs Mary Balfour.

10. Mr Duncan Macfarlane, merchant in Glaſgow, to Miſs Mary Smith, daughter of Mr Wm Smith junior, merchant.

11. James Mudie, Eſq; of London, to Miſs Jane Aitken, daughter of the late Charles Aitken, of St Croix, Eſq.

15. At Northampton, Major Johnſtone of the 44th regiment, to Miſs Elizabeth Levi, daughter of Mr Levi, of that place.

BIRTHS.

Lady Auguſta Leith, a daughter.

Mrs Stuart Menteith, of Cloſburn, a ſon.

Nov. 30. At Gibraltar, the Lady of Lieutenant Colonel Hunter, 38th regiment, a ſon.

4. At Park, near Stranraer, the Lady of Colonel Roſs, a daughter.

12. At Wemyſs-hall, the Lady of Lieutenant Colonel Wemyſs, a ſon.

13. The Counteſs of Errol, a daughter.

16. At Ayr, the Lady of the Right Hon. Dennis Brown, a ſon.

23. Mrs Colonel Maclean, (Breadalbane fencibles), a ſon.

25. Mrs Maitland, younger of Rankeilour, a ſon.

29. Mrs Hawthorn of Caſſlewigg, a daughter.

DEATHS.

At St Helena, Britannicus Alexander Wright, Eſq; of the Council of that place.

At Birmingham, Edward Walker, in the 90th year of his age, formerly of Hollinbuſs, in the pariſh of Holywood.

At Auchnacloy, Ireland, the Right Hon. John Earl of Portarlington, Colonel of the royal regiment of the Queen's county militia.

Hon. George Charles Wm Eden, third ſon of Lord Auckland.

Nov. 28. At Sheerneſs, Captain Brown, of the Kite ſloop of war.

29. At Forres, Mr Wm Bennet, miniſter of the Aſſociate congregation there.

— At Airſield, in the pariſh of Cranſtone, Mrs Elizabeth Ronaldſon, relict of Mr Wilſon, late farmer at Peaſton, aged 101 years and 3 months. Her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren, amount to 141. She married in the year 1719, lived 17 years a wife, and 65 years a widow.

Houſe of Commons.—New Members.

Hythe—Hon. Charles Marſham, *vice* Sir C. F. Radcliffe, Bart. dead.

Downton—Rt Hon. Sir Wm Scott, Knt. re-elected.

Richmond—Arthur Shakeſpeare, Eſq; *vice* C. G. Beauclerk, Eſq.

Banff—William Grant, Eſq; re-elected.

PREFERMENTS.

Viſcount Caſtlereagh, to be of the Privy Council.

Right Hon. Thomas Grenville, to be of the Privy Council.

The honour of Knighthood on Capt. Berry, of the navy. He was Lord Nelſon's captain at the Battle of the Nile.

The Duke of Montroſe, Preſident: Gilbert Innes, Eſq; Thomas Elder, Eſq; John Dundas, Eſq; Sir James Colquhoun, Bart.; and Sir John Hall, Bart.; Vice Preſidents, of Society of Scotch Antiquaries.

Dr Gregory, Preſident of the Royal College of Phyſicians.

Haddington, Dec. 28.

Wheat, 24s. Barley, 19s. Oats, 14s. 6d. Peaſe, 12s. Beans, 12s. 6d. Rye, 15s.

Edinburgh, Dec. 28. Oat-meal, 1s. Bear-meal, 10d. Peaſe-meal, 8d.

PRICES OF STOCKS.

	Dec. 12.	Dec. 24.
Bank Stock	137	—
3 per cent red.	54¼	53½
3 per cent. conſ.	54⅜	54⅝
4 per cent.	68	67
India Stock	163¼	—
Lottery Tickets	13l. 15s.	13l. 11s. 6d.

THE SCOTS MAGAZINE,

APPENDIX 1798.

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SKETCH OF JOHN PHILIP KEMBLE, ESQ.

THIS Gentleman, whoſe natural and acquired talents have elevated him to the acknowledged rank of the firſt Tragedian of the preſent times, is the ſon of Mr Roger Kemble, who was a Maſter of a Company of Comedians in various parts of the kingdom, by a daughter of Mr Ward, who was of the ſame profeſſion, and at one time an actor under Mr Rich, at the Theatre in Lincoln's-inn-fields. Mr Kemble, the ſubject of the preſent memoir, was born, it is ſaid, in Lancaſhire; and, from conjecture, his birth may be placed about the year 1756 or 1757. Though he performed while a child in his father's company, his original deſtination was not the Stage. He was placed, when young, at the celebrated Roman Catholic Seminary in Staffordſhire, where he ſoon diſtinguiſhed himſelf by ſuch an uncommon taſte for letters, as induced his father to ſend him to the Engliſh College in

the Univerſity of Doway, to qualify him for one of the learned profeſſions. At College, however, he did not, it is ſaid, at firſt excite much curioſity in the ſchools; but he was early noticed for a talent which has ſince ripened into excellence, the propriety of his oratorial exertions, which brought into the hall both the fellows and the profeſſors to hear them. His attachment to the drama alſo ſhewed itſelf in the pains he took in the performance of Cato and Brutus, in Mr Addiſon's Tragedy, and in Julius Cæſar, which repreſentations were then thought to be maſter-pieces. Proceeding in improvement, he produced many performances, which confirmed the good opinion formed of him; in particular, a Latin Eclogue, in 1774, on the death of Louis the Fifteenth of France, was ſpoken of in terms of the higheſt applauſe, as equally honourable to himſelf and the College, and was admitted to be the moſt elegant produc by the Univerſity on the occaſion.

But academical honours were not thoſe on which he had fixed his affections. While he appeared to be advancing with a rapid progreſs in the Univerſity, he reſolved to relinquiſh every plan of life connected with it, and ſecretly withdrew himſelf from the ſociety. It is to be preſumed he had reſolved to cultivate his talents for the Stage; and accordingly, after ſome time, engaged with Mr Younger at Liverpool, where he appeared in the character of Theodoſius. Of his merit or ſucceſs at that period we have not heard; but in the courſe of the ſeaſon he produced a tragedy on the ſubject of "Beliſarius," which recommended him to the notice of Mrs Dobſon, author of the Life of Petrarch, to whom he inſcribed a Poem, called "The Palace of Merſey." He afterwards engaged with the York Company, and appeared at Hull the firſt time in the month of October 1778. During his connection in this part of the kingdom, he produced a comedy, called "Oh! Its Impoſſible!" and an alteration of Maſſingers's "New Way to pay Old Debts." He alſo publiſhed a ſmall collection of Poems, under the title of Fugitive Peices, which maturer judgment has induced him to endeavour to ſuppreſs. While at York he alſo tried a new ſpecies of entertainment in the theatre of that city, conſiſting of a repetition of the moſt beautiful Odes from Maſon, Gray, and Collings; with the Tales of Le Fevre and Maria, from Sterne, and other pieces; and in this arduous taſk obtained great applauſe. He afterwards engaged with Mr Daly, in Dublin; and, by regular ſteps, at length was removed to Drury Lane, where he appeared the firſt time in the character of Hamlet, on the 30th of September 1783.

His reception in the metropolis was very favourable, though for ſome time he had not the opportunity of diſplaying his abilities in their full extent; the principal parts in the moſt popular plays being then in the poſſeſſion of Mr Smith, on whoſe retirement (in 1788) Mr Kemble took the lead in the tragic line each ſeaſon with increaſing effect.

In 1785 he produced the tragedy of The Maid of Honour, altered from Maſſinger; and, in 1786, The Projects, a farce, which did not meet a favourable reception. In 1787 he married Mrs Brereton, widow of Mr Brereton, of Dury Lane Theatre; and in the ſucceeding year, on the ſeceſſion of Mr King, became Manager in his ſtead: an office which he held eight years; during which period many improvements in the conduct of the ſtage, in the mode of repreſentation, in the appointment of performers to proper and appropriate dreſſes, were introduced. Theſe improvements ſtill continue; and while they remain, will be laſting proofs of the judgment and good ſenſe of the introducer. He alſo prepared ſeveral pieces for repreſentation, with alterations more or leſs,

as they might happen to require; and several new performances were indebted to him for very material improvements. In 1794 he produced at Dury Lane "Lodoiska," a drama, which has been received with great applause.

We disclaim being the panegyrist of any living performer, but justice requires us to observe, that high as Mr Kemble stands in the opinion of the the world as an actor, the concurring testimony of his friends unites in asserting, that it is not from his public performances alone that his worth is to be estimated.

Eur. Mag.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF JOHN O'KEEFFE, ESQ.

JOHN O'KEEFFE was born in Dublin, in the year 1746; his father was a native of the King's county and his mother (an O'Connor) of Wexford. The family of the O'Keeffes is among the most ancient and honourable, and, for a long time, ranked also with the most weathy of the sister kingdom; but, the contest between William and James, in which the ancestors of our hero (who were of the Roman Catholic persuasion) bore a share, which terminated so fatally to the Irish interest, swallowed up the best part of their property; and, from that period, their importance began to diminish.

At an early age, O'Keeffe was committed to the care of father Austin, a Jusuit, distinguished for learning and piety, and a celebrated orator. Under a man so well qualified for the office of a tutor, he soon made a proficiency in French and the classics; he also imbibed a taste for drawing, which he cultivated with great assiduity, in the academy, where he profited by the lessons of West, then master of that institution. So rapid was his improvement in this branch of art, that his friends indulged the most sanguine expectations of future excellence; but O'Keeffe was not destined for an artist: he had all the volatility and caprice of youth: as soon he had made advances in one pursuit, another attraction presented itself, and resistance was vain. Antiques and the pictures of the great masters drove him back again to books, in order to find and relish the historical subjects which the chissel and the pencil had so forcibly marked out. He next turned his attention to anatomy; and, probably, the harmony of the human frame (for who can deny the *association of ideas*) directed his mind to the study of music; he was peculiarly fond of this science, and having a good voice and fine expression in singing, his company was courted by persons of every age and description.

We now approach that period of his life, in which his talents, as a dramatic writer, began to shew themselves; he caught his first idea of the stage from Mossop, a great favourite among the boys, with whom he performed in several private plays. At the age of seventeen, while under the protection of his father, who was a Protestant, and held a situation in the prerogative-office, Dublin, he wrote a piece called the *She Gallant*, which was brought out at Smock-alley; and, having a strong propensity for satire, he soon after resolved to try the strength of his abilities in London. With this intention he came over to England, and sent his farce of *Tony Lumpkin in Town*, anonimously, to old Colman; the manager approved of it; it was speedily produced at the Haymarket theatre, and O'Keeffe had the satisfaction of returning to Ireland with the intelligence of its success; the news, however, had got there before him, and he was received with open arms in the first circles of fashion. Young, gay, and fortune smiling upon his hopes; fought after by the witty, and caressed by the great, our hero yielded to the chearful bent of his temper. Dissipation, however, did not encroach too far: he had his hour of

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At an early age, O'Keeffe was committed to the care of father Auſtin, a Juſuit, diſtinguiſhed for learning and piety, and a celebrated orator. Under a man ſo well qualified for the office of a tutor, he ſoon made a proficiency in French and the claſſics; he alſo imbibed a taſte for drawing, which he cultivated with great aſſiduity, in the academy, where he profited by the leſſons of Weſt, then maſter of that inſtitution. So rapid was his improvement in this branch of art, that his friends indulged the moſt ſanguine expectations of future excellence; but O'Keeffe was not deſtined for an artiſt: he had all the volatility and caprice of youth: as ſoon he had made advances in one purſuit, another attraction preſented itſelf, and reſiſtance was vain. Antiques and the pictures of the great maſters drove him back again to books, in order to find and reliſh the hiſtorical ſubjects which the chiſſel and the pencil had ſo forcibly marked out. He next turned his attention to anatomy; and, probably, the harmony of the human frame (for who can deny the *aſſociation of ideas*) directed his mind to the ſtudy of muſic; he was peculiarly fond of this ſcience, and having a good voice and fine expreſſion in ſinging, his company was courted by perſons of every age and deſcription.

We now approach that period of his life, in which his talents, as a dramatic writer, began to ſhew themſelves; he caught his firſt idea of the ſtage from Moſſop, a great favourite among the boys, with whom he performed in ſeveral private plays. At the age of ſeventeen, while under the protection of his father, who was a Proteſtant, and held a ſituation in the prerogative-office, Dublin, he wrote a piece called the *She Gallant*, which was brought out at Smock-alley; and, having a ſtrong propenſity for ſatire, he ſoon after reſolved to try the ſtrength of his abilities in London. With this intention he came over to England, and ſent his farce of *Tony Lumpkin in Town*, anonimouſly, to old Colman; the manager approved of it; it was ſpeedily produced at the Haymarket theatre, and O'Keeffe had the ſatisfaction of returning to Ireland with the intelligence of its ſucceſs; the news, however, had got there before him, and he was received with open arms in the firſt circles of faſhion. Young, gay, and fortune ſmiling upon his hopes; ſought after by the witty, and careſſed by the great, our hero yielded to the chearful bent of his temper. Diſſipation, however, did not encroach too far: he had his hour of mirth

mirth and his hour of retirement; he read and wrote much on philoſophy, and compoſed ſeveral moral tracts, &c. which, though never printed, are yet intended for the preſs. Whether the public will condeſcend to receive a ſyſtem of philoſophy, or of ethics, from one who appears to have ſtudied all his life in the ſchool of Democritus, we cannot pretend to ſay; but we are recording facts, and who knows but O'Keeffe may one day reform, by his ſermons, the age he has diverted by his *farce*.

The truth is, O'Keeffe, in his youth, was like *Tangent* in the play; he had no fixed principles. *Whim* ſent him into the *drawing-academy*—*Whim* had nearly made him and hiſtorian—*Whim* carried him into the *diſſecting-room*, and ſeated him at the *muſic-deſk*: and it was the ſame capricious lady that now placed him in the *philoſopher's chair*. The progreſs of youth, and of genius, is frequently chequered with theſe diverſities of fancy. When the mind firſt begins to expand, it graſps at every diſtinct branch of human ſcience; *utrèque nunc ſententia*; maturity ſhews us the folly of ſuch expectations, and then we determine upon the particular object of literary purſuit.

Upon his return to Ireland, O'Keeffe added to his growing importance, by marrying the daughter of Tottenham Hemphy, Eſq. a gentleman of great merit and reſpectability; but an accident happened to him ſoon after, which interrupted his career of enjoyment, and finally terminated in one of the moſt affective calamities which can befal human nature——no leſs than that of *loſs of ſight*.

The circumſtances which led to this deplorable misfortune are ſimply theſe: Mr O'Keeffe, while on his return home from Ringſend, near Dublin, in the month of December, fell off the South Wall into the morais below; with ſome difficulty he extricated himſelf, but the ſuddenneſs of the event, together with the exceſſive darkneſs of the night, deprived him of all recollection of his way; and, after wandering about for ſeveral hours, in a ſtate of which none but thoſe who have experienced the *comforts* of a wet ſkin, under a freezing ſky, can be properly ſenſible; he met, by chance, with a convivial party, to whoſe ſolicitations he imprudently liſtened, and ſat the whole night in his damp cloaths; a violent cold was the conſequence, which ſettled in the eyes, and a decay of ſight immediately took place. At firſt, its operations were ſcarcely preceptible, but it ſtole gradually upon the poor patient, and, at length, produced the diſorder called *gutta ſerena*. Milton, as our readers know, laboured under a ſimilar affliction; but, like our immortal bard, the ſubject of this memoir has derived from the ſtores of his mind, and the conſolations of genius, a ſufficient degree of fortitude to enable him to bear up under this heavy bodily infirmity, and ſometimes to triumph over the pangs it muſt inflict.

The melancholy, however, which took poſſeſſion of his mind when the failure of his eyes debarred him from his accuſtomed purſuits drove him into retirement. Deprived, at the age of 23, of the advantage of books, drawing, &c. he ſought to alleviate his unhappineſs by the amuſement of ſwimming, in which art he became extremely ſkilful. As his deſpondency wore away, he reſumed the occupation of writing for the ſtage, and ſpeedily produced the *Son-in-Law*, one of the luckieſt efforts of his pen. He ſent it over from Dublin to Mr Colman the elder. The *Dead Alive* followed: and in 1780, the *Agreeable Surpriſe*, ſince tranſlated into French by the Abbe Sarbonne, who introduced it to the Pariſians with a dedication, a preface, and memoirs of the author.

The fame of O'Keeffe, who had now taken up his abode in London, was ſo completely eſtabliſhed by the run of the piece laſt mentioned, that Mr

Mr Harris thought it his intereſt to procure the aſſiſtance of ſo popular a writer: he accordingly ſent to our hero and engaged him to produce an opera againſt February. For this ſervice he was to have a ſpecific ſum, not dependant upon the ſucceſs of the opera. O'Keeffe immediately went to work, and, either from his anxiety to touch the caſh, or his zeal to ſerve the theatre, preſented his performance ſome months before the period preſcribed by the manager; and it was produced ſo early in the ſeaſon as the month of November. It turned out, however, that the dramatiſt had exemplified the proverb, *more haſte than good ſpeed*, for the *Banditti* was loudly condemned on repreſentation, and O'Keeffe, for the firſt time, in this kingdom, had the mortification of enduring the *hiſſes* of a London audience. Mr Harris, notwithſtanding this reception, ſtrictly and honourably adhered to the bargain he had entered into with the author.

There is no capriciouſneſs ſo unaccountable as that of an audience. O'Keeffe ſeems to have been appriſed of this, for he took the unfortunate opera home with him, and having altered ſome of the ſcenes, and given to it another title, ſubmitted it again for approbation at the ſame theatre. His labour was not thrown away; for the *Caſtle of Andaluſia* brought him back all the credit, and the manager ten times the money they had reſpectively loſt by the *Banditti*.

His next piece was the *Poſitive Man*, written upon the plan of his maiden production, the *She Gallant*. It ſucceeded indifferently, at firſt; but has ſince acquired a ſituation among the ſtock farces of the theatre.

Any chagrin which the cool reception of the *Poſitive Man* might have occaſioned, was quickly done away by the flattering compliment paid to two of his previous efforts, viz. the *Son-in-Law*, and the *Agreeable Surpriſe*, which were ſo loudly called for, notwithſtanding their run in the ſummer, that Mr Harris applied to his brother-manager for the loan of thoſe entertainments for twelve nights, every one of which was honoured with an overflowing audience; and ſuch was the continued demand for places at the expiration of the time appointed, that *two more nights* were ſolicited and obtained, at the earneſt requeſt of ſeveral Ladies of high diſtinction.

Mr Colman, who had hitherto patronized his dramatic undertakings, now took our hero under his more immediate protection; he introduced him into the firſt companies for wit, refinement and rank; treated him with the utmoſt kindneſs and affability, and Mr O'Keeffe eſteems, among the happieſt hours of his life, thoſe paſſed with the elegant tranſlator of Terence, at Richmond and Soho.

Our author, indeed, ſeems to have *taken the tide at the flood*, for he was making his way to fortune as rapidly as poſſible. The *Young Quaker* was put into Colman's hands as an intended opera; he pronounced it a good comedy, and, as a *comedy*, it was produced: this, alſo, met with great ſucceſs: Colman had the author's reputation at heart, and he ſought to increaſe it by every means which friendſhip and talent could ſuggeſt.

The next offspring of his ſatirical muſe fell a victim to combination. The *Man Milliner* was adverriſed, and every member of that *maſculi feminine* fraternity ſwore to reſiſt the expoſure of their *ambiguous* character. All the haberdaſhers ſhops were ſhut at three o'clock, and a *yard of ribbon* or a *card of lace*, were not to be purchaſed from the Manſion-houſe to the end of Pall-Mall. Their object, however, was accompliſhed; the curtain drew up, and the piece, contrary to every principle of Britiſh juſtice, was condemned without a hearing. A ſimilar combination drove the *Weſtminſter Boy* of

Captain Topham from the boards: the terrible students of St Peter's College dreading the profanation of the *gown* and *cap*.

The *Poor Soldier*, one of the moſt ſimple and attractive of Mr O'Keeffe's productions, ran forty nights the firſt ſeaſon; and here he reaped the benefit of his early application to muſic, for the greater part of the ſongs and accompaniments, which, as is well known, conſiſt almoſt entirely of Iriſh ballads, &c. are his own compilation.

Mr O'Keeffe now ventured on a more hazardous experiment, and wrote a comedy in five acts, which he called the *Plague of Riches*. This, however, Mr Harris thought it prudent to reject, and the author, in compliance with the wiſhes of that gentleman, reduced it into two acts, and, with the addition of ſome ſongs, again preſented it under the title of the *Farmer*. It went the ſame number of nights as his *Poor Soldier*, in the courſe of the firſt ſeaſon.

After the run of the *Farmer*, O'Keeffe compoſed a ballet under the title of the *French Grenadier*, interſperſed with ſongs, in commemoration of the demolition of the Baſtille. In this ballet, though it was never brought upon the ſtage, the principal agents on that occaſion, viz. Dubois, de Launy, &c. were introduced, it is ſaid, with the happieſt effect.

The ſuppreſſion of the *French Grenadier* was occaſioned by the interference of the Chamberlain. The ſame excerciſe of power was extended to another production of O'Keeffe, called *Jenny's Whim*, or, the *Roaſted Emperor*; which the judicious and cautious Chamberlain interpreted into a reflection on the emperor of Germany; though, in fact, it alluded to the overbearing deſpotiſm of the emperor of Morocco. He afterwards offered the farce to the bookſellers, who refuſed to print it, on account of Lord Salſbury's interdict, the operation of which *alone* prevented the apppearance of *Jenny's Whim* upon the Covent-garden ſtage.

ANECDOTES AND GLEANINGS,

FROM THE WORKS OF THE LATE LORD ORFORD.

The Ontaouanoucs.

November 3. 1754.

THE Weſt-Indian war has thrown me into a new ſtudy: I read nothing but American voyages, and hiſtories of plantations and ſettlements. Among all the Indian nations, I have contracted a particular intimacy with the Ontaouanucs, people with whom I beg you will be acquainted: they pique themſelves upon ſpeaking the pureſt dialect. How one ſhould delight in the grammar and dictionary of their Cruſca! My only fear is, that if any of them are taken priſoners, General Braddock is not a kind of man to have proper attentions to ſo polite a people; I am very apprehenſive that he would damn them, and order them to be ſcalped, in the very worſt plantation-accent. I don't know whether you know that none of the people of that immenſe continent have any labials: they tell you *que c'eſt ridicule* to ſhut the lips, in order to ſpeak. Indeed I was as barbarous as any polite nation in the world, in ſuppoſing that there was nothing worth knowing among theſe charming ſavages. They are in particular great orators, with this little variation from Britiſh eloquence, that at the end of every important period they make a preſent; whereas we expect to receive one. They begin all their anſwers with recapitulating what has been ſaid to them; and their method for this is, the reſpondent gives a little ſtick to each of the bye-ſtanders, who is, for his ſhare, to remember ſuch a paragraph of the ſpeech that is to be anſwered. You will wonder that I ſhould have given the preference to the Ontaouanucs, when there is a much more extraordinary

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